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JANUARY 17, 2018 | WWW.VERMONTJOURNAL.COM VOLUME 18, ISSUE 03

Ice jam at Mill St. Bridge in Cavendish causes flooding and evacuations

BY SHARON HUNTLEY
The Vermont Journal

CAVENDISH, Vt. – Around 7 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 12, 2018, an ice jam at the Mill River Bridge in Cavendish caused flooding of the Mack Molding parking lot and Mill Street. According to Assistant Fire Chief, Abe Gross, the ice floes had backed up over a half-mile stretch of the Black River, jamming at the Mill Bridge location. As floodwaters neared an apartment complex and two other dwellings, the Cavendish Fire Department urged four families to evacuate.

Cavendish firefighters continued to work throughout the night in shifts, checking every half hour, to make sure the flooding was not getting any worse. Town Manager Brendan McNamara was also on scene consistently to check

on conditions.

Mack Molding hired Crown Point Excavation from Chester to clear the ice jam on Saturday. Crown Point's equipment arrived on scene on Saturday afternoon and excavator operator Shawn Pollard began clearing huge ice chunks away from the right side of the bridge, and continued to break up and remove the ice. The water began to recede from the road and from the Mack Molding parking lot shortly after those efforts began.

In addition to two excavators that were clearing a channel in the river, Crown Point was also using bucket loaders to load ice and snow into dump trucks to be carted off. Assistant Fire Chief Abe Gross admits "It certainly was helpful for Mack to hire the contractors because the fire department mitigates life threats pretty well,



The water rose into driveways and into four households' properties, as well as Mack Molding across the street.

PHOTO BY STU LINDBERG



Town Manager Brendan McNamara and Assistant Fire Chief Abe Gross on the Mill St. Bridge in Cavendish as ice jam is cleared.

PHOTO BY STEVEN DREBBER

but we are not equipped to handle geoscoping, or in this case 'ice scaping', required to redirect the flow away from the plant and crossing Mill street."

As a precaution, Cavendish Town Manager Brendan McNamara reached

out to VTrans on Tuesday, Jan. 16, to arrange for an inspector to examine the bridge and give their approval before reopening the bridge, which is expected to happen by midday on Wednesday.

GMUSD budget talks result in a revised administrative structure

BY SHARON HUNTLEY
The Vermont Journal

CAVENDISH, Vt. – As the Green Mountain Unified School Board Finance Committee works toward a final budget to submit for board approval, several earlier proposed changes suggested by the TRSU, specifically for elementary school administrative staffing and nursing staff have been changed.

During the Jan. 9 Green Mountain Unified School Board District meeting, Two Rivers Supervisory Union Superintendent, Meg Powden, confirmed that she was abandoning her earlier proposed structure of one principal to oversee both elementary schools, each with a dean of students for both Cavendish Town Elementa-

ry School (CTES) and Chester Andover Elementary School (CAES). The current proposal now calls for two principals, one for each school, and a "teaching dean of students" for CAES.

Explaining the change in a separate email, Powden said, "The change in the principal structure for GMUSD was made as a result of meetings with the finance committee. We have listened to feedback from teachers and parents and we know we need more time to discuss some of our proposed changes going forward."

Also cut from the budget was a position for an additional grade 3/4 teacher for CAES. Details outlining the duties of the proposed "teaching dean of students" position at CAES

were still in the works. In addition, a proposed Spanish teacher position has also been cut from the budget.

Previously recommended nursing staff changes were also being revised, with the latest budget restoring the nursing staff to its current level, with 2.4 registered nurses. Powden indicated there would be more discussion happening with the Vermont Department of Health on nursing needs for the district going forward.

GMUSD's finance committee and school board continue efforts to finalize their budget with meetings scheduled on Wednesday, Jan. 17 at 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. respectively at Green Mountain Union High School in Chester.

Are we getting what we voted for?

CAVENDISH, Vt. – Cavendish is now part of the Green Mountain Unified School District (GMUSD), which becomes operational on July 1, 2018. Instead of there being three boards and budgets for Cavendish Town Elementary School (CTES), Chester Andover Elementary School (CAES), and Green Mountain Union High School (GMUHS), there is now one GMUSD board, and budget, that reports to the Twin River Supervisory Union (TRSU).

There are several big changes between the current Two Rivers Supervisory Union (TRSU) that Cavendish is part of and the GMUSD. For starters, the Ludlow Mount Holly Unified Union School District (LMHUUSD), also part of the TRSU, is not part of the GMUSD. However both GMUSD and LMHUUSD will

continue to be under the supervision of the TRSU.

In years past, towns voted on their own school's budget. Now there is one budget for the GMUSD that is voted on by Australian ballot by the members of the GMUSD (Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish, and Chester). There will no longer be a school informational meeting as part of Cavendish's Town Meeting. Instead there is one for the GMUSD, which will take place in Chester on Feb. 27.

The recent GMUSD Finance Committee and board meetings have brought up considerable concerns for Cavendish residents. One looming question is how much administration is needed at the district level to oversee two preschools, two elementary schools, and a high school?

According to the TRSU's staff directory, - noting that it covers the schools of the GMUSD along with Ludlow/Mount Holly - they have in addition to the superintendent Meg Powden, six administrators at central office (directors of finance, information technology, student support services, and educational advancement/CPF team leader; curriculum coordinator; and early education collaborative director). The administrative support team includes eight additional staff (two administrative assistants; three bookkeepers, human resources, operations, and Medicaid clerk).

Special education is included under the TRSU budget. This currently includes 27 teachers and nine support staff. In addition, there are four other staff members - two IT support-technicians, TRSU mail courier, and bus driver/coordinator-Plymouth. Each school has a principal, teachers, and support staff, including paraprofessionals who provide one on one for

See **VOTED** on Page 2A

Weston hopes to improve tax collection with email reminders

BY SHARON HUNTLEY
The Vermont Journal

WESTON, Vt. - The Weston Select Board met on Tuesday, Jan. 9, starting with town highway issues including approval of the highway certificate, approving the purchase of an additional 1,000 yards of sand and discussion of selling the town's oldest plow truck.

The 2012, six-year-old plow and sand truck, which includes plow, sander, and dump body, has 68,000 miles on it. The sale of the truck will be put out to bid, with interested parties being able to view the truck by appointment. All bids to be submitted in a sealed envelope to the town office by noon of Feb. 12.

Upgrades are being made to portions of the town server, which includes ordering of replacement parts that will enhance storage, etc. These fixes to keep the system functioning properly for the next few years until a full upgrade, which would cost thou-

sands of dollars, is needed.

Changes are being proposed that will help reduce delinquent tax payments by including a series of three email reminders following the mailing of the official tax notices in July. Email reminders will be sent on Aug. 1, Sept. 1 and Sept. 15/Oct. 1, to remind taxpayers of the Oct. 9 deadline.

The tax due date will be announced officially at town meeting and the treasurer will have a sign up sheet at town meeting to capture voluntary email addresses. Property transfers happening between April and July will result in a paper tax bill sent to the new owner as well as the owner of record (as of April 1), for each property.

The Town Clerk expressed that a request for email addresses might be included in the welcome letter sent to new Weston residents so they can be included in the tax email reminder list.

The board discussed how delin-

quent tax payments hit the town general fund the hardest since all other interests such as the highway and school, get their money first. The Town Clerk will officially make the recommendation to the town.

The appointment of Andrew Harper to the Weston Conservation Committee was recommended and approved.

The winter parking ordinance was in the process of being rewritten when another issue surfaced. Construction vehicles parked on roads, particularly on back roads, for more than two weeks, make it difficult to stay on top of road maintenance, mowing and plowing. The parking ordinance will be further tweaked to address and include this issue, and language pertaining to construction vehicles will be included in the process for approving a construction permit. The revised parking ordinance will be presented in a future meeting.

2018 USPS postage rate increase

REGION – Postage rates have increased an average of one cent every year for the past five years. As of Jan. 22, 2012, stamps cost 45 cents; on Jan. 21, 2013 they rose to 46 cents; Jan. 26, 2014 stamps jumped to 49 cents; on April 10, 2016 they dropped to 47 cents; and Jan. 22 last year stamps increased back to 49 cents.

The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) will implement new postage rates for several mailing and shipping products effective on Sunday, Jan. 21, 2018. Stamps will raise one cent, from 49 to 50 cents, while other rates will increase an average of 4 percent across all USPS shipping services.

Summary of the 2018 postage rate increase:

Domestic mailing:

- First Class Mail Letters (1oz.) rates will increase from \$0.49 to \$0.50 when purchased at the Post Office. Each additional ounce will cost \$0.21.
- The discounted "Metered Mail" category for First Class Mail Letters (1oz.), which includes online postage providers and postage

meters will increase from \$0.46 to \$0.47. Each additional ounce will cost \$0.21.

- First Class Mail Flats (1oz.) will increase from \$0.98 to \$1.00. Each additional ounce will cost \$0.21.
- Postcard rates will increase one cent to \$0.35.

Domestic shipping:

- Priority Mail Express will see an overall rate increase of 3.9 percent in 2018. Commercial Base (online postage) rates will start at \$21.98 (previously \$21.18).
- Priority Mail will see an average rate increase of 3.9 percent in 2018. Commercial Base (online postage) rates will start at \$6.55 (previously \$5.95).
- First Class Package Service will see an average rate increase of 3.9 percent in 2018. Commercial Base (online postage) rates will start at \$2.66 (previously \$2.61).
- Parcel Select Ground will see an average rate increase of 4.9 percent in 2018. Commercial Base (online postage) rates will start at \$6.55 (previously \$5.95).
- Media Mail will see an average rate increase of 3.9 percent in 2018.

Rates will start at \$2.66 (previously \$2.63).

International shipping:

- Priority Mail Express International will see an average rate increase of 3.9 percent in 2018. Commercial Base (online postage) rates will start at \$40.38 (previously \$38.90).
- Priority Mail International will see an average rate increase of 3.9 percent in 2018. Commercial Base (online postage) rates will start at \$31.35 (previously \$30.16).
- First Class Package International Service will see an average rate increase of 3.9 percent in 2018. Commercial Base (online postage) rates will start at \$9.50 (previously \$9.03).

The postage for our printed publications five years ago was 10.2 cents per edition, which has increased every year. As of last year, each edition cost 19.4 cents to mail. Postage is a huge portion of our outgoing dollars as we mail to over 30,000 mailboxes every week.

In addition to the postage increase, our publications have also

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ATTENTION!

Send all press releases and calendar events as a word / text document. **Do not send a PDF.**

All press releases are **subject to space and may not include pricing information.**

Send images as a **JPEG.**

Self-Compassion workshop held at DG Bodyworks



Self Compassion.

STOCK PHOTO

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. - On Sunday, Feb. 4, 2018, from 4-6 p.m. will be a self-compassion workshop held at DG Bodyworks, in Proctorsville, Vt. The proven power of being kind to yourself is based on the book "Self-Compassion" by Kristen Neff, Ph.D. This two-hour workshop will help you start the journey of self-kindness and why

it's important to give yourself the same caring and support you would give a friend. Using solid research learn how to heal destructive emotional patterns so you can be healthier, happier, and more effective. Contact Lori Wright at lorwright163@gmail.com or call/text 603-401-8123 for more information.

Get creative with LEGO club!



Create and have fun with LEGO club!

STOCK PHOTO

CHESTER, Vt. - Children are invited to join the LEGO club at the Whiting Library in Chester, Vt. We will provide the LEGOs and DUPLOs and you supply the imagination. Come create, make friends, and have a good time using your hands and creative ideas. The program begins Monday, Jan. 22 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. and will meet each Monday after that.

LEGO club is open to children of all ages. Creative play with LEGOs or DUPLOs can

help to develop creativity, encourage problem-solving skills, boost motor development, and support critical thinking. Thanks to the Rotary Club of Chester for helping us with a generous donation for this program.

For more info, 802-875-2277, www.whitinglibrary.org, or on Facebook.



Main & Mountain opens

LUDLOW, Vt. - The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce is pleased to welcome our newest renovated boutique motel called Main & Mountain Bar and Motel to the Chamber. They are located at 112 Main Street in Ludlow, Vt. This newly renovated, well-designed motel has a sense of authenticity and adventure that reflects the spirit of the area. They have a beautiful lobby bar showcasing spirited mixology and hand-crafted cocktails, craft beer, and wine. Their bar doubles as the check-in counter as well. Visit them and their sister property, Homestyle Hostel, across the street. Pictured left to right: Marij Graf from the Chamber of Commerce and owners Eliza Green, Matthew Farkas, Christie Farkas, and Justin Hyjek.

PHOTO BY DONALD DILL

POSTAGE

From Page 1A

experienced an increase in printing costs. Subsequently, we will be raising our rates by \$0.50 per column inch to accommodate for our outgoing expenses, and to maintain the same quality paper that you have come to

enjoy.

The Vermont Journal and Shopper would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our loyal customers for advertising with us. Our advertisers pay for the paper to be printed and delivered to all of our local residents free of charge. We hope all of our advertisers and readers have a prosperous and

gratifying 2018.

Find more detailed information about the postage rates for 2018 at www.stamps.com/usps/postage-rate-increase/

View postage stamp rates since 1863 at <https://about.usps.com/who-we-are/postal-history/domestic-letter-rates-since-1863.pdf>

What speech would you give as president to advance civil rights?

REGION - The Calvin Prize Essay Contest invites Vt. students to write a speech to advance civil rights for a particular group or groups. While progress has been realized, civil rights for all American citizens continues to be an ongoing process, sometimes with setbacks.

These powerful ideas are to be explored in the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation's 2018 Calvin Essay Contest. This is open to all Vermont students (or students who go to school in Vermont) age 13 through 19 and is due May 11, 2018. A first place prize of \$1,500 and second place prize of \$500 will be awarded.

During his political career, President Calvin Coolidge reached out

publically to many different groups that were experiencing prejudice. He gave the commencement speech at historically black Howard University, spoke at the dedication of the Jewish Community Center in Washington D.C., addressed the (Catholic) Holy Name Society, signed the Indian Citizenship Act, and supported a black candidate for political office by confronting those who would deny the candidate that right.

Students, let your voice be heard through the 2018 Calvin Writing Prize. For full information and resources, see www.coolidgefoundation.org/the-calvin-writing-prize/.

The Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation is the official foundation dedicated to preserving the legacy

and promoting the values of America's 30th president. The foundation is headquartered at the president's birthplace in Plymouth Notch and offers a variety of programs at the President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site. Contact education@calvin-coolidge.org or call 802-672-3389.

VOTED

From Page 1A

students with special needs.

Nowhere is there any mention of programming for those students who are gifted and talented. As one parent noted, "It's as if they are catering to the bottom and ignoring the needs of the top." As it is, two new opportunities that would benefit all students are also being rescinded: second language instruction for the elementary schools as well as increased technology options.

While voters were promised a tax break if they voted for the formation of the GMUSD, it turns out any savings have evaporated due to changes at the state level. In addition, there are a number of additional costs to address the multi-tiered administrative system of GMUSD/TRSU, none of which translates into direct benefits to student education.

While discussions have been underway regarding where economy of scale can be achieved for GMUSD, the proposed budget doesn't appear to be offering that. In fact there is concern by some parents that the newly formed GMUSD and TRSU are not adequately leveraging technology to find administrative efficiencies.

Among proposals discussed was one principal for the elementary schools in the GMUSD along with a dean of students at CTES and CAES. However, the decision was recently made to replace retiring principal CTES principal George Thompson with a full time principal along with adding \$72,659 to the budget for a "teaching dean of students" at CAES. This is being done so CAES Principal Katherine Fogg can "improve instruction and improve outcomes."

The per-pupil costs appear to be going from \$14,800 to more than \$16,000. This has been explained in part by the increase in health insurance benefits for the elementary school staff being brought up to the level of the high school staff, which will add more than \$200,000 to the budget.

Ultimately, the voters were sold on the formation of GMUSD by saying it would save money and provide more educational opportunities for students. As the GMUSD is unfolding, it is doing neither as the budget is increasing to support functions that have nothing to do with educating students.

At Tuesday night's GMUSD finance committee meeting, no budget was passed. The next finance committee meeting will be on Jan. 17 at 5 p.m. followed by a GMUSD meeting at 6 p.m. both at GMUHS. To follow the GMUSD meetings including agendas and minutes, go to www.sites.google.com/trsu.org/greenmountainunifiedschoolist.

Article written by Margo Caulfield, originally posted on Caven-dish Connects.

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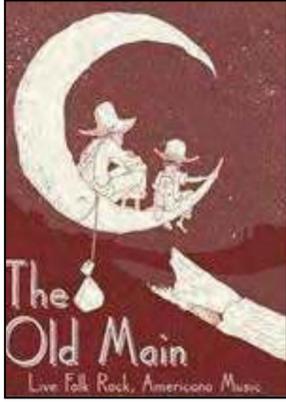
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The Old Main to play a benefit concert for Flood Brook student activities

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - The popular band the Old Main will play a special, one-night only concert at 7 p.m. at the Black Line Tavern at Magic Mountain to benefit the students of Flood Brook School.

Hailing from the foothills of the Adirondack Mountains in upstate New York, the Old Main has drawn favorable comparisons to bands such as the Avett Brothers, the Band, and Dawes, while retaining a sound and style uniquely their own. With catchy original music and creatively reimagined covers, they've been called everything from folk-rock to alt-Americana, though no label or description compares to hearing their foot-stomping music in person. Acoustic guitar, harmonica, banjo, upright bass, drums, and ringing vocal harmonies make up the Old Main's raw



The Old Main.

PHOTO PROVIDED

acoustic sound. Their high-energy

live performances are enjoyed by all. The Old Main continues to build acclaim and expand their already strong following all over the northeast.

Join us on Friday, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. to hear a great band benefitting a great cause at Magic Mountain's Black Line Tavern, 495 Magic Mountain Access, Londonderry, VT, 05148.

Tickets are sold at the door. Advance tickets are available at Flood Brook School, the Weston Marketplace, Brown Enterprises, or by emailing nadinevanhouten@yahoo.com. Proceeds benefit the Flood Brook Student Activities Cooperative, a non-profit organization dedicated to raising funds for enrichment activities for the students of Flood Brook School.

Green Mountain Union High food services new digital menu, Jr. Iron Chefs update

CHESTER, Vt. - We are pleased to announce the introduction of our new digital menu program. The name is Nutrislice. This is an all-new high tech program that allows everyone to download the free app to access our menus, and for that matter most breakfast and lunch menus in our district. It can be downloaded to any device, phone, laptop, iPad, and so on. The best part is when you click on any given menu item, any and all nutritional information is shown. This is a great tool for children with medical issues that require this valuable information. With this new system anyone can access our menus anytime from anywhere. Just go to the website at www.trsu.nutrislice.com.

Just a reminder we have a breakfast and lunch payment system. We do not allow charging of any meals. However, we do offer a few ways to access your child's account and make payment on the account. First, you can create an account online by going to www.mymealtime.com and set up your profile. You will need the account number that I can send you via e-mail upon request. This will enable you to access your child's account anytime to observe when they are eating and make payments on the account. You can also send in a check to the school or cash anytime and we can place it on the account.

I encourage everyone to apply for free or reduced meals anytime during the school year. You may feel you do not qualify, but the amount a family can earn changes every year so you may qualify and take advantage of a great program. The forms are even available on the school's website.

Our three Junior Iron Chef teams have been working very hard on perfecting their recipes. The competition is March 17 in Essex Jct. at the Fair Grounds. Time is going fast but as

far as I can see all three teams have a recipe and are working hard to perfect it. I have sampled a couple of the recipes in their early stages and they are great. We are hoping that the event being held on St. Patty's day will bring us luck.

We are purchasing many local foods here at Green Mountain for our Farm to School program. I have

purchased hundreds of pounds of local beef we use in our meat sauces and any recipe that calls for ground beef. By the way, it is very high quality beef. As we do in Chester/Andover, we also purchase onions, apples, potatoes, and greens when available.

The first Wednesday of every month we offer our senior citizen luncheon. We serve at noon. Please

feel free to stop by for a great meal and a great time with the kids.

Feel free to contact me anytime with any questions concerning account balances, or menus. Call 802-952-9133 or email jack.carroll@trsu.org.

Article written by Jack Carroll, food services at Green Mountain Union High School.

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PrimeLending Loan Officer Receive Top Production Awards from VHFA



Victoria Blodgett
Senior Loan Officer
802-975-0350
vbloodgett@primelending.com

National mortgage lender PrimeLending and a local PrimeLending loan officer both received awards recently from the Vermont Housing Finance Agency.

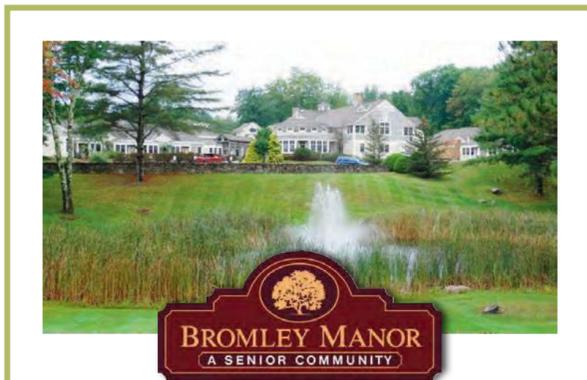
PrimeLending was named the Top Mortgage Company for 2017, and Victoria Blodgett (NMLS: 179656) was named third among the group's Top 5 Originators.

The VHFA promotes ownership for low- to moderate-income homebuyers, and the awards were given to organizations and people who had the highest VHFA production throughout last year.

"I'm thrilled for PrimeLending on receiving its award, and I'm honored to be among the Top 5 Originators," said Blodgett. "PrimeLending is truly a company that cares about making a difference, which is part of why I enjoy my job so much. I love helping people. That includes the borrowers, agents, attorneys or insurance companies involved in the home loan process. Most importantly, though, I love helping people become homeowners."

Blodgett has worked for PrimeLending for nearly four years and has worked in the mortgage industry for 16.

PrimeLending, a PlainsCapital Company, is a national residential mortgage originator. Between 2012 - 2016 PrimeLending was listed as a top 10 mortgage lender in the nation in purchase units.* Offering fixed-rate, adjustable-rate, FHA, VA, USDA and jumbo home loans, refinancing and relocation programs. PrimeLending is authorized to make loans in 50 states and the District of Columbia. Founded in 1986, PrimeLending is a wholly owned subsidiary of PlainsCapital Bank, which in turn is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hilltop Holdings Inc. (NYSE: HTH). More information at PrimeLending.com.



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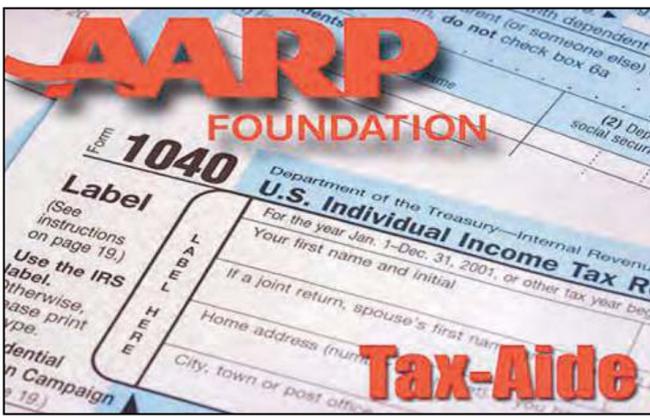
AARP Foundation Tax-Aide free tax preparation

REGION - Beginning Feb. 1 and continuing through April 17, AARP Foundation is providing free individualized tax assistance and preparation for all low to moderate taxpayers especially those 50 and older. This is done through the Tax-Aide program. AARP Foundation Tax-Aide, celebrating its 50th year, is the nation's largest free tax assistance and preparation service. Since its inception, the program has served more than 50 million taxpayers.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide volunteers are trained and IRS-certified each year to ensure they know about and understand the latest changes to the U.S. Tax Code. Vermont District 10, which includes sites in Ascutney, Bellows Falls, Chester, Londonderry, and Springfield, is conducting certification training this month in Chester at the American Legion, post 67.

Thanks to the Legion for hosting not only our training, but our Chester site as well.

Following a list of our host locations and contact numbers to call to make a required appointment for each of our sites in District 10.



AARP foundation free tax help.

STOCK PHOTO

- Ascutney - Martin Memorial Hall, 5259, Rte. 5 on Tuesdays. Call 802-885-3933 and request Ascutney.
- Bellows Falls - Senior Center, 18 Tuttle Street on Mondays and Wednesdays. Call 802-463-3907.
- Chester - American Legion, Post 67, 637 Rte. 103 on Mondays. Call 802-463-1985.
- Londonderry - Neighborhood Connections, 5700 Rte. 100 on Tuesdays. Call 802-824-4343.
- Springfield - Springfield Library, 43 Main Street on Mondays and Thursdays. Call 802-885-3108.

- Springfield - Senior Center, 139 Main Street on Mondays and Tuesdays. Call 802-885-3933 and request Springfield.

When calling for an appointment, a volunteer will work with you and provide guidance on what materials to bring with you. They will also do their best to determine if your tax return is within the scope of the AARP Foundations Tax-Aide program. Taxpayers of all ages are welcome. We all look forward to assisting you during the upcoming tax season.

MedQuest 2018 health careers exploration for high school students

REGION - Southern Vermont Area Health Education Center (SVAHEC) is pleased to announce that applications are open for the 2018 MedQuest programs. This program is for southern Vermont high school students currently in grades 10, 11, and 12 who are interested in pursuing a career in healthcare. Students will explore a variety of healthcare careers through job shadowing, workshops, and career exploration. With the help of volunteer professionals in the hospital and medical community, students see health care in action and get an insider's look at rewarding career opportunities. Students will also receive CPR certification as part of the program. Students experience campus life in the company of new friends and graduate-level health professions students that serve as staff.

Interested students in grades 10, 11, and 12 must submit an application and two references.



MedQuest high school students at work in the medical field.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY NORTHERN VERMONT AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER WEBSITE

Application information is available at www.svtahec.org, the deadline to apply is Friday, March 2. This is a competitive application process. Scholarships are available to help with the cost of the program. Please contact Joan Devine at 802-885-2126 for more information.

Southern VT AHEC is a non-profit organization with a volunteer board of directors from Bennington, Rutland, Windham, and Windsor counties. SVAHEC works in partnership with the Robert Larner, M.D. College of Medicine at the University of Vermont.

Are you a snowbird? Protect your finances while you're gone

REGION - Winter is officially here - but you may soon be leaving it behind if you're a snowbird. When you go, though, you'll want to keep your financial situation from getting caught out in the cold.

These are a few suggestions you may want to consider:

Protect your home.

If you're like many people, your home is your biggest investment, so you'll want to protect it while you're away. You're probably already familiar with the steps you should take, such as informing your neighbors that you'll be gone, stopping your newspapers, forwarding your mail, using a timer to turn lights on and off, and so on. And these days, with smart phones and advanced security systems, you can look in on your home whenever you like.

Notify your bank.

Recognizing the prevalence of identity theft, the fraud departments of many banks are getting more aggressive in spotting and denying unusual charges. Consequently, you'll want to give your bank your temporary address and contact information before you leave. By doing so, you can reduce the risk of your account being frozen temporarily if your financial institution can't reach you with questions about charges from an unexpected location. You might also find it useful to open a bank account at your snowbird site.

Gather your tax forms.

If you're gone most of the winter, you may bump up against the tax-filing deadline, which this year is April 17, 2018. So, to allow yourself enough time to prepare your taxes, or to have

them prepared by a professional, gather your tax information before you leave. Make sure you've got all your investment-related forms, such as your 1099-INT (for interest income) and your 1099-DIV (for taxable capital gains and dividends).

Track your investments.

You can probably track the progress of your investments online, and it's a good idea to do so, just as you would at your permanent residence. Even if you're only gone a couple of months, you may need to make some investment moves, such as "maxing out" on your IRA, so stay on top of your accounts and contact your investment professional, as needed. As always, though, don't overreact



It's indoor weather... Snowbirds can relax in the sun if they know how to protect their finances back home.



STOCK PHOTOS

to sudden market swings - ideally, you've got long-term strategies in place that can serve your needs in most investment environments. In any case, it also wouldn't hurt to notify your financial professional that you'll be away for a while, even if you typically only see him or her a couple of times a year.

Arrange for bill payments.

If you handle most of your bills online or through auto-pay, you won't have to worry about missing a payment while you're gone. Still, if you take care of some bills the old-fashioned way, with checks, envelopes, and stamps, you may want to give yourself some sort of reminder of when these payments are due.

Be careful on social media.

To be on the safe side, you may not want to trumpet your extended time away from home on Facebook or

other social media platforms. It's sad but true that identity thieves watch for information like this.

In all likelihood, you'll enjoy being a snowbird - and by making the above moves, you'll have less financial baggage to deal with when you take off.

This article was written by Edward Jones Investments for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Winter warm up concerns

REGION - Recent extreme cold temperatures with snow accumulation has contributed to ice and snow buildup on roofs. With warmer temperatures and rain in the forecast-falling ice and heavy snow loads on roofs may present a hazard.

Please follow the safety tips below:

- Keep all chimneys and fuel fired appliance vents clear to prevent carbon monoxide from backing up into

the building. Some vents, such as gas, oil, and pellet stove vents, may vent directly out of the building through a wall and are susceptible to being blocked by excessive snow buildup on the outside of the building.

- Keep all exits clear of snow, so that occupants can escape quickly if a fire, or other emergency should occur. Keep in mind windows should be cleared to allow a secondary means of escape in case the primary means of escape is blocked by fire. Keeping exits clear also allows emergency workers quick and easy access to your building.
- Be alert when approaching buildings for overhanging ice and snow, with the warming weather and forecast of rain, the ice and snow could fall from the roofs at any time.
- Monitor your roof drainage systems for blockage to ensure that your roofs are displacing the water as designed. Clear any ice, snow or debris as needed to assist with proper drainage.
- Please check on your neighbors and assist them when you can, especially our most vulnerable, the elderly and those with restricted mobility.
- Ensure your home is equipped with working smoke and CO alarms.

Vermont Division of Fire Safety's mission is to support our citizens and first responders with coordinated efforts in code enforcement, fire service training, public education, hazardous materials and incident investigation to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the devastating effects of fires and other disasters and emergencies in the state.

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LOCAL HISTORY

BY RON PATCH

Ron Patch is a Chester native, Chester Historical Society president, and a lifelong antiques dealer.

He can be reached at 802-374-0119 or email knotz69@gmail.com

Rare 1848 map

It was several years ago when we discovered an old map stashed away in a closet at the Chester Historical Society. It was poorly framed and in poor condition. The map is signed, "W.R. Sill, 1848" and measures 16"x20".

1848 is the oldest known map of Chester village. Realizing its importance, Chester Historical Society members voted to have the map restored. We sent it to Works on Paper, located in the Square in Bellows Falls. Here a complete restoration was performed. Below are a few of the issues that were addressed.

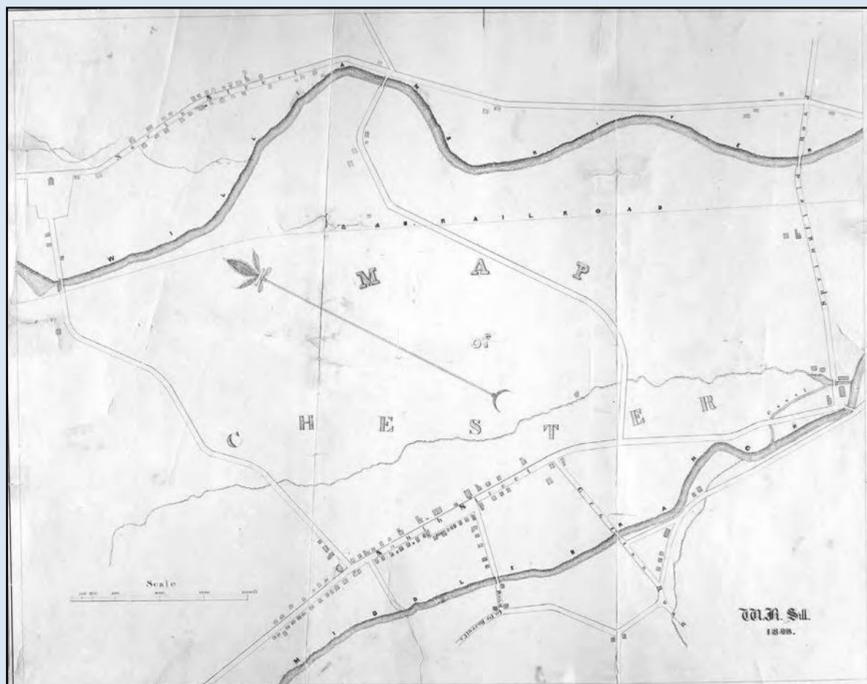
The map had been folded and refolded many times. When paper is repeatedly folded it breaks down the fibers in the fold. Eventually these weakened folds will tear which was the case with this map. On the reverse of the map you can see where someone, years ago, had used scotch tape to tape the tears together. The yellowed scotch tape residue created additional damage.

The restoration process:

The map was immersed in a series of water baths to remove acidity and discoloration. Then it was given an alkaline bath of calcium hydroxide to help reduce remaining acid.

It was then backed with Japanese tissue to mend tears, fill losses and provide overall support. Where there were major breaks or tears additional supporting strips of Japanese tissue were applied to strengthen the map and help reduce tenting or curling of the damaged sections.

To flatten the map it was placed in a humidity chamber. This helped to soften and relax the paper fibers. Then for six weeks it was pressed between layers of absorbent cotton rag blotters under evenly distributed weighted boards.



Restored 1848 map of Chester, Vt.

PHOTO BY RON PATCH

The map is now at The Framery of Vermont on Elm Street in Chester to be museum mounted, double matted, and glazed, using conservation glass providing 99 percent UV protection, and then re-framed. When completed, the map will be on display at Chester Historical Society.

Researchers will find this map useful. It's an interesting study. Main Street homes and businesses are well documented. On the site of today's Fullerton Inn is the original American House that burned in 1858. Across the street is Chester Academy. The Congregational church sits on the corner of Main and Church Streets. Three buildings are present

on Church Street next to the church but no others.

Where Church Street meets Route 103, in what today is the "Y" sits the old meetinghouse. This meetinghouse was destroyed by fire in 1849. No photos are known to exist of that meetinghouse. Fortunately the map shows the meetinghouse with its front entry tower so common on old New England meetinghouses.

In Chester Depot there is not a single building. Only the railroad tracks are seen. Continuing down past Yosemite Firehouse is another interesting item. The big brick house on the left that Pember Hazen owned is present. Across the road in the field are two other buildings. One is a rather substantial building while the other is smaller. I have never seen anything on these two buildings before.

Where the new Jiffy Mart is today is what was known as Factoryville. The mills are shown as well as the canal that brought water from the Williams River over to Factoryville. Continuing down Pleasant Street toward Springfield only one building is shown. That building is Pizza Stone.

What we know:

This map is an original hand-drawn map. I did an online search for W.R. Sill but found nothing. Tom Hildreth took a stab at it and lo and behold he found W.R. Sill.

Here's what Tom found:

"William Raymond Sill, Born 30 January 1822. W.R. Sill has

been employed from 1844 to 1856 in the states of Vermont, New York and Wisconsin, as an engineer on the rail roads. Has been engaged in land agency and lumber business since 1856. His residence is La Crosse, Wis. Married Mary Edgar of St. Louis, MO., On 24 May 1858."

Where Sill is mentioned as an engineer he would be a civil engineer not locomotive engineer. Sill had a brother who graduated West Point and was a topographical engineer. The map was undoubtedly commissioned by the railroad.

The next meeting of the Chester Historical Society is Thursday, Jan. 25, upstairs at Chester Town Hall at 7 p.m. The monthly slideshow will be Chester photos recently donated by Ted Spaulding. Some of these photos I have not seen before. Everyone is welcome whether a member or not. Come see what we're up to.

The only thing worse than trying to clean up a raw egg dropped on a linoleum floor is to drop the whole dozen like I just did.



Remember when...

Remember when the Abbott Homestead was painted by R. Abbott back in 1970...

Does anyone know where this is located? Does it still look the same today? Email us your comments to editor@vermontjournal.com

PHOTO PROVIDED BY PETER FARRAR

Check out our weekly Business Spotlight

Featured on Page 5B



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1848 map before restoration showing scotch tape residue that needed to be removed from the backside.

PHOTO BY RON PATCH

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opinion

Op-Ed: Vermont Senate passes bill to make marijuana legal for adults

A bill that would make marijuana legal for adults in Vermont received final approval on Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2018 from the Vermont Senate and will soon make its way to the desk of Gov. Phil Scott, who vetoed a similar bill in 2017. In December, Gov. Scott indicated that he intends to sign H. 511 into law.

H. 511 would eliminate Vermont's civil penalty for possessing one ounce or less of marijuana and remove penalties for possession of up to two mature marijuana plants and up to four immature plants, beginning in July.

"This is a big step forward for Vermont," said Matt Simon, New England political director for the Marijuana Policy Project. "Vermonters should be proud that their state is becoming the first to do this legislatively, rather than by ballot initiative."

Fifty-seven percent of Vermont voters support allowing adults 21 and older to possess and grow limited amounts of marijuana, according to a statewide survey of 755 registered voters conducted in March by Public Policy Polling. Only 39 percent are opposed. Nationwide support is similarly strong. An October 2017 Gallup poll found 64 percent of Americans support making marijuana legal.

Vermont is poised to become the ninth state to make marijuana legal for adults and the first to do so through its legislature. Eight other states have enacted laws legalizing and regulating marijuana for adult use, all through ballot initiatives. In Washington, D.C., voters approved a ballot initiative making personal possession and home cultivation legal for adults 21 and older. Vermont

and 22 other states do not have a ballot initiative process. Those states' marijuana laws can only be modified by legislatures.

"This will be an important milestone for the legalization movement. When Gov. Scott signs this legislation, Vermont will become the first state in the country to end marijuana prohibition through legislative action," said Matthew Schweich, interim executive director of the Marijuana Policy Project. "MPP is proud to have helped lead the Vermont effort, just as we led the legalization ballot initiative campaigns in Maine and Massachusetts in 2016. In the past two years, we've seen incredible progress on marijuana policy across New England. Now that yet another state has rejected marijuana prohibition, there is even more pressure for Congress to take action to prevent any federal interference from Attorney General Jeff Sessions. It's time for the federal government to respect the authority of states to determine their own marijuana policies."

The Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, and Rhode Island legislatures are expected to seriously consider making marijuana legal for adults this year as well, and the New Hampshire House approved a similar measure on Tuesday. In Michigan, signatures have been submitted for a November 2018 ballot measure to regulate marijuana like alcohol for adults.

Article written by the Marijuana Policy Project. The Marijuana Policy Project is the nation's largest marijuana policy organization. For more information, visit <http://www.MarijuanaPolicy.org>.



"Otis, I'd like to thank you for driving me into early retirement."

Op-Ed: A special thanks to Vermont dairy farmers on National Milk Day

On Jan. 11, we commemorated the day when milk started being delivered in sterilized glass bottles back in 1878. It's no secret that Vermont is a dairy state. Dairy farming and production is a large part of the state's cultural and economic identity, bringing \$2.2 billion in economic activity each year (Vermont Dairy Promotion Council, 2015). In fact, milk generates more sales than any other Vermont agricultural product and 63 percent of all milk produced in New England comes from Vermont.

In 2017, the Legislature recognized that dairy farming is vital to maintaining a strong economy and protecting and preserving Vermont's rural landscape. To determine the health of the state's dairy industry, ensure that there's an adequate supply of milk for all consumers and ensure equitable pricing for farmers, the Vermont Milk Commission was formed. On Wednesday, Jan. 10, Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets Anson Tebbetts assembled the Commission for a sixth time to evaluate proposals and prepare recommendations to the congressional delegation for the 2018 federal Farm Bill.

Milk plays a critical role in the health and lives of Vermont students. In 2016, students in Vermont schools consumed approximately 751,315 gallons of milk. Milk contains nine essential nutrients, three of which are generally under-consumed by American children: calcium, potassium and vitamin D (Office of Disease Prevention

and Health Promotion, 2015). This makes milk an important drink option in school meals as it promotes children's health and wellbeing. Additionally, milk is a foundation to fuel academic success for children, as well as to promote agricultural literacy and connect Vermont's students to their dairy farmers.

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture makes the process of storing and displaying ice cold milk at schools more feasible through the Farm to School Equipment Grant program (formerly known as the Milk Cooler Sponsorship Program). Through this program, VAAFM supports access to milk for all Vermont students by helping schools purchase equipment that can improve the viability of the child nutrition program overall.

Milk is also used to create a wide variety of other high-quality Vermont dairy products, like cheese, yogurt, sour cream, butter, and ice cream. So, let's thank our Vermont dairy farmers who work hard every day to produce a pure, healthy, and nutritious product for us all to enjoy.

Article written by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets. VAAFM facilitates, supports and encourages the growth and viability of agriculture in Vermont while protecting the working landscape, human health, animal health, plant health, consumers, and the environment. For more information, go to www.Agriculture.Vermont.Gov.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Although we are just at the end of the second week of the session, the State House is buzzing with activity. There is a daily schedule for all events or meetings taking place in the available spaces in the building, which includes a portion of the cafeteria in the morning. This is in addition to the daily calendars for House and Senate floor action and the witnesses scheduled to testify for each committee.

Some of the non-legislative groups convening here on one day were the Association of General Contractors, the Lake Carmi Campers Association who are dealing with a serious pollution problem, the Vermont Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs who had a display in the so called "card room," the Vermont National Guard in the Cedar Creek room, and the Vermont Legal Aid. Former Senator Bill Doyle's class from Johnson State College observing committees, Founders Memorial School students from Essex Junction were on a tour, and

the Governor was holding his weekly press conference. Extra legislative meetings that occurred were the Climate Solutions Caucus and the Rural Economic Working Group. All of these meetings are open to the public.

Many reports that were requested during the last half of the session have been arriving and almost all are posted on the Legislative website. Others, not requested have also been received and are informative in their areas of expertise. "How are Vermont's Young Children and Families?" from Building Bright Futures provides data and analysis on challenges and successes our young children and their families are facing. The opiate epidemic is having a significant impact in multiple areas of child and family wellbeing.

It also features some recommendations and strategies as to how to best serve and support these young children and their families. We have a decline in the number of children

in Vermont, but we have an increase in the number of children going into the custody of the state. From 2011 to 2015, the population of children under nine years of age dropped from 58,321 to 56,093. From 2012 to 2015, the number of children under nine in the Department of Children and Families' custody went from 366 to 695, and it has increased since those dates.

There are positives reported as well, and in most areas around the state there is improvement in readiness for Kindergarten. The report provides regional breakdowns of the information as well as by school districts.

With regard to a January 2018 report from the Department of Corrections, there is good news in that the incarcerated population is at 1,796 persons down from a high of 2,248 in 2010. This number includes 261 prisoners who are placed out of the state of Vermont. For those who follow prison numbers, there are 370 de-

tainees currently being held. Windsor Prison, so called, has closed due to the high cost of housing prisoners at the facility.

There is a pleasant view outside the front windows of the State House as the skating rink on the lawn has returned despite a big blip that threatened its existence at the start of winter. It is being used, and there are lights for night skating. It's not Rockefeller Center, but we may be the only State House in the country to have our own rink.

Visit Montpelier, have lunch in our cafeteria, and take a tour. Contact me at home at 802-228-8432 or anitka@leg.state.vt.us. I am able to read all of your emails and appreciate you sending them, however the volume received makes it impossible to respond to all of them.

Sincerely,
Senator Alice Nitka
Montpelier, Vt.

Dear Editor,

I would like to begin by sincerely thanking the firefighters of Cavendish Fire District #2 for their dedicated, hard work, and continued support of our mission. Every one of you deserves great respect and admiration for the sacrifices you have made as volunteers to facilitate the protection of this community. I would also like to thank the family members of our firefighters who continually provide assistance and valuable time to this department. Lastly, I would like to recognize the Cavendish Fire District #2 Prudential Committee mem-

bers for their support and direction over the last year. Your assistance has been much appreciated.

Firefighter Jay Nareau is taking the combined FF1/FF2 class at Hartford Fire Department that lasts approximately 9 months. Jay will learn many tasks including fire suppression techniques, motor vehicle accidents, and much more.

Firefighter Eric Berquist is taking the FF2 class at Windsor Fire Department that lasts 4 months. In this class, Eric will learn advanced fire techniques, and learn to become a

leader in the fire service.

Cavendish Fire Department wishes to thank Jeffrey Davis for his many years of dedicated service to our department, the town of Cavendish, and the surrounding communities. It's been a true honor to have Jeff be a part of the department. Jeff is stepping down after 17 years to focus on a few other things including finishing a college degree and spending valuable time with his family. Jeff has always been an excellent example of dedication to family and service to community and continues to serve

as a role model, even as he steps away from the fire service at this time. Cavendish Fire sends Jeff and his family best wishes going forward and are excited to see the success he finds in the future.

We look towards another prosperous year serving our community and wish to thank everyone who has supported us during the past year.

Sincerely,
Chief Shane Turco
Cavendish Fire District #2
Cavendish, Vt.

Dear Editor,

I was shocked in reading the obituary page of my Sunday, Jan. 14, issue of the Valley News to see the article on Edgar Killen who was responsible for the killing of three civil rights workers during the Freedom Summer of 1964.

Today, Jan. 15, is "Martin Luther King Day" when our country should remember Mr. King and applaud what he did for civil rights. I find it disgusting that this man, who was so despicable, would have such a large

article published anywhere. My only consolation is that he was convicted and incarcerated for long years, albeit at taxpayers' expense.

In the future, please don't include such people in the obituary page. National News page, yes, but not where decent human beings obituaries are published.

Sincerely,
Lorraine Zigman
Weathersfield, Vt.

THE Vermont Journal & THE SHOPPER

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Include town & daytime phone (not for publication)

The viewpoints expressed in the editorial section do not necessarily reflect the views of The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

OBITUARIES

church services

ASCUTNEY, VT.

Bow Baptist Church, 1102 Rte 5. Sunday school at 10 a.m. Morning service at 11 a.m. Evening service at 6 p.m. Prayer meeting on Wednesday at 7 p.m. Call 802-546-4902 or www.bowbaptist.com.

Open Bible Baptist Church, 168 Cemetery Rd.

Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. Morning service at 11 a.m. Afternoon service at 2 p.m. Wednesday at 7 p.m. Sanctuary handicap accessible. obbcvt.org.

BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St.

Holy Eucharist Services are offered at 8 a.m. (quiet service) and 10 a.m. (with music) every Sunday. Immanuel Church is handicap accessible.

Faith Christian Church, 582 Rockingham Rd.

Pastor Matt and Brenda Farkas welcome all to come and enjoy their services. Sunday worship music & song at 10 a.m. Children's Church (3-7 years) at 10:30 a.m. 802-591-1350. www.Sapatv.org www.fact8.com

BELMONT, VT.

The Village Church, 35 Church St.

The Sunday service and children's church is at 9:30 a.m. Contact 802-259-2440; vbch.weebly.com/

CHARLESTOWN, N.H.

North Charlestown United Methodist Church, Route 12A River Rd.

Sunday worship begins at 9 a.m. Church is handicap accessible. Contact 603-826-0381.

CHESTER, VT.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 313 Main Street.

Sunday service at 8 a.m. Service with music, Sunday School, and nursery care available at 10 a.m. Wednesday morning prayer at 9:40 a.m. Website www.stlukeseiscopalvt.org or call 802-875-6000.

Chester Baptist Church, 162 Main St.

Sunday school at 9 a.m. for children and adults of all ages, it's a time to learn from and discuss the Bible. Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. Childcare is provided for toddlers through pre-school. Youth group meets at 1 p.m. and prayer meeting at 6 p.m. Parking is on the street or in the lot at the rear of the building. Wheelchair accessible. Call 802-875-2638. www.cheserbaptist.org.

GRAFTON, VT.

The Grafton Church (UCC and ABC), 55 Main St.

Worship begins at 10 a.m. All are welcome!

LONDONDERRY, VT.

St. Joseph Chapel, High St.

Mass on Saturday at 6 p.m.

LUDLOW, VT.

Annunciation Catholic Church, Corner of Depot and High St.

Mass on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. Sundays at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Call 802-228-3451

The United Church of Ludlow (UCC and Methodist), 48 Pleasant St.

Sundays starting at 10:15 a.m. followed by a time of fellowship and coffee hour. Call 802-228-4211 or email unitedchurch@tds.net. Visit us online at www.unitedchurch.us

Ludlow Baptist Church, on the Green, 99 Main St.

Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. Music Ministry Fellowship at 10:30 a.m. Morning service at 11 a.m. Evenings at 6:30 p.m. Prayer meeting Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. www.ludlowbaptist.org or Pastor Jerry Scheumann 802-228-7600.

PERKINSVILLE, VT.

Perkinsville Community Church, 35 Church St.

All are welcome. Call 802-263-9539.

PLYMOUTH, VT.

Tyson Congregational Church, Corner of Rt. 100 / Dublin Rd.

Worship begins at 10:30 on Sundays. 802-228-5114. All are welcome!

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

Church of Christ, Route 11, Chester Rd.

Sunday school starts at 10 a.m.

Worship service at 11 a.m. Wednesday Devotional is at 6:30 p.m. Enter through the back downstairs door. Check out the Facebook page: Springfield Church of Christ.

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 90 Park St.

Vespers on Saturdays at 5 p.m. and Liturgy on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call 802-885-2615 or go to www.htocvt.org.

Precision Valley Baptist Church, 69 Route 106

Adult Bible Study on Sundays from 9-9:45 a.m. Services start at 10 a.m. Located right next to Cota & Cota.

St. Mary's Catholic Church, 10 Pleasant St.

Sunday Masses at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., Tuesday at 7 p.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration. Thursday and Friday at 9 a.m. Confession on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Contact the rectory at 802-885-3400.



Elizabeth J. Augustinovich, 1925-2018

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Elizabeth Josephine Augustinovich, 92, died Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018 at Springfield Health and Rehabilitation Center in Springfield, Vt. She was born Dec. 1, 1925 in Weathersfield, Vt., the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth S. Kamel. She attended Springfield schools and graduated from Springfield High School. On June 14, 1947, she was married to John P. Augustinovich. He predeceased her on June 2, 2014.

They owned and operated a second generation dairy farm well into their 80s on Elm Hill in Springfield. In addition to working the farm, she enjoyed gardening and raised seven children.

She is survived by her six daughters Sandy Miller and her husband Robert of Walpole, N.H., Nancy Salo of Frederica, Del., Sherry Brosseau of Clifton Park, N.Y., Patty Augustinovich of Bethel, Vt., Joanne Greene of Springfield, and Susan Ballard of Springfield; one son Peter Augustinovich of Springfield; eight grandchildren; seven great grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her parents; five brothers John, Mike, Floyd,



Betty Augustinovich, 1925 - 2018. PHOTO PROVIDED

Fran, and Joe Kamel; and by four sisters Helen Kamel, Ida Lavoie, Lee Lavoie, and Mary Wilson.

Per her wishes there will be no calling hours. A memorial service will be held in the spring at the Elm Hill Farm. Contributions may be made in her memory to the Springfield Health & Rehabilitation Center, 105 Chester Road, Springfield, VT 05156. Davis Memorial Chapel is assisting with arrangements.

Myrtle A. Sweet, 1940 - 2018

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. - Myrtle A. Sweet, 77, of Grevin Road, died peacefully in her home on Monday, Jan. 1, 2018. Sweet was born in Huntington, Vt. on May 17, 1940, the daughter of Allen and Jessie (Norton) Sweet, and was the seventh of eight children. She attended the Huntington schools through 5th grade. Sweet lived in Bellows Falls from 1982 to 2000, and later moved to Springfield and Proctorsville.

Sweet enjoyed spending time on her artwork, going on car rides, shopping for clothes and jewelry, going out to eat, and going to the movies. She had a large collection of stuffed animals and was particularly fond of "Lambie Pie." She loved being around her friends and looked forward to celebrating holidays with all her people. She was very considerate of others and liked sharing her artwork.



Myrtle A. Sweet, 1940 - 2018. PHOTO PROVIDED

She is survived by her brother Kenneth Sweet. She is predeceased by her parents; and her brothers James, George, Henry; and her sisters Lillian, Laura, and Susan.

There will be a celebration of life at 2 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 19 at Lincoln St. Inc. in Springfield.

Unitarian Universalist Church, 21 Fairground Rd.

On Sunday, Jan. 21 at 10 a.m. is "Cultivate Courage! A Celebration of M.L. King" with Rev. Dr. Mellen Kennedy. Courage is heart strength. Martin Luther King, Jr. embodied this way of being. In these tumultuous times, let's look to the brazen faith of King for inspiration and challenge. All are welcome. www.uuspringfieldvt.org or call 802-885-3327.

WALPOLE, N.H.

St. John's Church, corner of Westminster and Elm St.

Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. Services begin at 10 a.m., followed by coffee hour. For more information about Art After School program, our outreach efforts, call 603-756-4533.

First Congregational Church of Walpole / United Church of Christ, 15 Washington Sq.

Sunday school at 10 a.m. with coffee hour at 11 a.m. Wheelchair accessible with ramps and elevator. Call 603-756-4075 or email walpolechurch@yahoo.com.

Walpole Unitarian Church, corner of Union and Main St.

Sunday Service begin at 10 a.m.

Minister is Rev. Elaine Bomford who will be present twice a month. The first Sunday of each month is Family First Sunday with breakfast and spiritual activities for the whole family. Check www.walpoleunitarianchurch.org.

WESTMINSTER, VT.

Christian Family Circle Chapel, 1512 Back Westminister Rd.

Sunday song service begins at 10 a.m., Sunday school at 10:30 a.m. Fellowship lunch on first Sunday of each month. Non-denominational. Visit www.christianfamilycirclechurch.com and like us on Facebook.

WEST WINDSOR, VT.

Brownville Community United Methodist Church, 66 Brownville-Hartland Rd.

Sunday worship 9:30 a.m. followed by fellowship and refreshments. Nursery care provided during church service for children 5 years and younger. ADA accessible. Call 802-484-5944, email bcchurchvt@gmail.com, or go to www.brownvilleumc-vt.org.

CHURCH SERVICES ARE ONLINE
www.VermontJournal.com

Karsen C. Rickert, 2017-2018

LUDLOW, Vt. - Karsen Charles Rickert, 11 months, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018 at the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H. He was born Feb. 11, 2017 in Springfield, Vt. the son of Nicholas C. Rickert and Abigail S. Wood.

Survivors include his parents Nicholas and Abigail, paternal grandmother

Kari Hess, paternal grandparents Nelson Rickert and Melissa Johnson, maternal grandfather Ben Picz, maternal grandmother Pamela Howe, Aunt Cassie Howe, and Aunt Brooklyn Wood.

Services will be private. Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield is assisting with the arrangements.

James C. Holton, 1925-2017

WESTMINSTER, Vt. - James C. Holton, of Westminister, Vt. and Venice, Fla. passed away on Dec. 5, 2017, surrounded by family and friends. He was born in Saxtons River, Vt., June 21, 1925, son of Charles and Elizabeth Bartlett Holton. He graduated from Bellows Falls High School in 1943. He joined the United States Marine Corps serving from 1943 to 1946 in the South Pacific theatre. After the service, he went on to Arnold College, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He went on to the University of Massachusetts graduating with a Master's degree in physical education.

He married Barbara Wentworth of Bellows in 1948. Together they served as house parents at Kurn Hattin Homes in Westminister, Vt. where he was also the director of physical education.

Leaving Kurn Hattin, he went to his first love of farming, raising potatoes for 25 years. Leaving farming he went to work in the school system, as a bus driver, custodian at the Bellows Falls High School, and then 20 years as grounds keeper for Bellows Falls Union High School. He retired from there in 1994.

Over the years, he served as Chief of Police and Tax Collector for the village of Westminister. He belonged to the Windham County Deputy Sheriffs, was a member of the Westminister Volunteer Fire Department, and served on the Westminister Institute Board of Directors. He was a member of the Vermont Football

Officials Association and the New England College Football Association, officiating in high school and college for many years.

He was a life member of the Bellows Falls Elks Club, the Polish American Club of Bellows Falls, the American Legion of Bellows Falls and Venice, Fla., the VFW in Englewood, Fla., and the Bellows Falls Moose Club. While living in Venice, Fla., he was an active member in the Military Order of the Devil Dogs and Toys for Tots.

He is survived by his wife Barbara of Venice, Fla.; a son Gregory, his wife Joan of Westminister, Vt.; daughter Raynie Laware her husband John of Walpole, N.H.; grandsons Christopher his wife Megan of Massachusetts, James Wheeler and his wife Susan of Tennessee, Eric Wheeler and his wife Margarita of Connecticut, and Brett Wheeler of Venice, Fla.; great-grandchildren Jack Holton; Nicholas, Gracie, Landon, and Logan Wheeler; Tyler and Benjamin Wheeler; Jordan Harvey; and many nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents Charles and Elizabeth of Westminister; two brothers Bill of Westminister and George of Jacobus of Pennsylvania; and a nephew Bradley Holton of Jacobus, Pa.

A memorial service will be held at a later date at the convenience of the family. Contributions, in his name, may be made to the Westminister Congregational Church of Westminister, P.O. Box 122, Westminister, VT 05158.

Rachel I. Morrison, 1919 - 2018

LUDLOW, Vt. - Rachel Ida Morrison, 98, passed away into the arms of Jesus on Jan. 4, 2018 at the Gill Odd Fellows Home in Ludlow, Vt., with family by her side. She was born Sept. 2, 1919 in Cavendish, Vt., the daughter of Elton and Flora (Tucker) Brown. She attended school in Cavendish. She was married to Kenneth A. Morrison. He predeceased her in 1992.

Morrison enjoyed being with her family and friends, reading, especially her Bible, doing crossword puzzles, and watching Jeopardy. She was a member of the Ludlow Baptist Church.

She is survived by her son Elwin "Butch" Morrison of Keene, N.H.; three daughters Linda Kingsbury of Ludlow, Vt., Sheila May of New Ipswich, N.H., and Kathy Morrison of Keene, N.H.; along with 10 grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren, two great-great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. She was also predeceased by nine brothers and sisters, and one grandchild.

A graveside service will be held in the spring at the Hillcrest Cemetery. Details will be announced at a later date. Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt., is assisting with arrangements.

Susan M. Watkins, 1961-2018

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Susan Marie Watkins, 56, of Springfield, Vt. passed away unexpectedly Friday, Jan. 5, 2018 at Dartmouth Hitchcock in Lebanon, N.H. She was born March 14, 1961 in Springfield to John and Colleen (Burke) Watkins. Watkins was a resident of Springfield where she graduated Springfield High School in 1979.

She took much pride in her years of employment at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. Some of her best memories include her carpooling days in which she formed some of her closest friendships. Watkins was best known for her tardiness, sick sense of humor, her love for life and family, her kindness and generosity, and her passion for music and dancing.

She is survived by her companion of 12 years John Batchelder; her

daughter Stacey Boyle and granddaughter Brinley Boyle. She also leaves behind a slightly dysfunctional family that she was very proud of: her five brothers Michael Watkins, Thomas Watkins, Ronald Watkins, Jeffrey Watkins, Rodney Watkins; one sister Jean Handley; three stepsisters Linda, Carol, and Chris Fisk; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She is predeceased by her parents John G. Watkins and Colleen B. Fisk, as well as her stepfather, Lindel Fisk, all of Springfield, Vt.

A celebration of life will be held in lieu of a service at Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt. on Friday, Jan. 19 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be made to Springfield Humane Society in remembrance of Watkins' love for animals at 401 Skitchewaug Trail, Springfield, VT, 05156.

ANSWERS TO TAKE A BREAK!

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

2	5	9	7	4	1	8	3	6
4	8	7	5	3	6	9	1	2
1	6	3	8	2	9	5	7	4
7	1	4	6	8	3	2	9	5
3	9	6	2	7	5	4	8	1
8	2	5	1	9	4	3	6	7
6	3	1	4	5	8	7	2	9
9	4	2	3	6	7	1	5	8
5	7	8	9	1	2	6	4	3

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

W	A	S	P	D	I	M	S	L	I	P
A	G	U	E	E	S	P	C	A	S	E
D	R	E	A	M	I	N	G	R	I	L
E	A	T	A	F	T	D	E	T	E	R
		S	K	Y	O	N	A			
A	D	D	T	O	A	D	A	M	A	N
P	O	O	R	I	C	E	I	D	E	A
R	E	C	E	I	V	E	S	N	O	O
		A	M	Y	S	A	G			
S	K	I	M	P	B	I	G	T	A	U
P	E	R	I	G	L	E	A	M	I	N
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Tatum's Totes Teddy Bear Toss benefit event

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Saturday, Feb. 3, at 2:30 p.m., bring a new stuffed animal to Springfield Cosmos vs. Windsor Yellow Jackets girls' varsity basketball game to throw onto the court at halftime. The Springfield Booster Club is teaming up with Windsor for this important benefit for Tatum's Totes.

Tatum's Toes of the Springfield Region serves foster children in Springfield, Windsor, Bellows Falls, Chester, Ascutney, Ludlow, and surrounding communities by providing a backpack, duffel bag, or diaper bag to every child from infants to 18 year-olds to help them transition into foster care. The bags include comfort items such as stuffed animals, blankets, books, toys, water bottles, personal hygiene items, academic materials, and more.

Other donations for Tatum's Totes will be collected during both the JV game at 1 p.m. and the varsity game.

Items that can be donated include:

- Bags, backpacks, diaper bags, duffel bags



The Teddy Bear Toss will take place at halftime of the Springfield Cosmos vs. Windsor Yellow Jackets basket ball game.

PHOTOS PROVIDED

file bags

- Socks, hats, mittens
- Travel size Q-tips, shampoo and conditioner, tissues, lotion, body wash, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, hand sanitizer

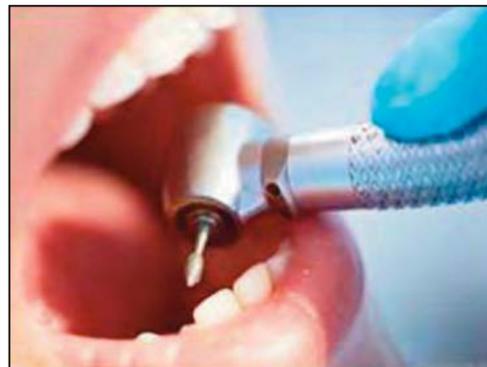
- Brush, comb, hair accessories, deodorant

- Diapers, pull-ups, baby wipes, bottles, sippy cups, water bottles, pacifiers, rash cream
- Toys, blankets, stuffed animals, books, coloring books, puzzles, pens, pencils, erasers, crayons
- Tampons, pads, and a pouch to put them in
- Make up (no nail polish please)

Springfield Medical Care Systems awarded grant for surgical drill

CHESTER, Vt. – Springfield Medical Care Systems (SMCS) is pleased to announce that it has received a \$4,558 grant from the Northeast Delta Dental Foundation to purchase a new surgical drill for use at Chester Family Dental in Chester, Vt. The new drill will allow Dentist Madhav Shrirao, D.M.D., to place dental implants, a new service at the center, and to surgically extract teeth, including wisdom teeth. Services provided by the center include routine hygiene and basic and major restorative care, including fillings, crowns, bridges, root canals, dentures, extractions, and emergency dental services.

"We appreciate the Northeast Delta Dental Foundation's long-time partnership which, in this case, will help us provide a new,



Chester Family Dental received grant money for purchase of a new surgical drill.

PHOTO PROVIDED

and help them expand services to patients at Chester Family Dental. We are proud to support SMCS in their efforts to provide quality oral health care to patients of all ages," said Crystal Carroll, manager of Community Relations at Northeast Delta Dental.

For more than 20 years, the Northeast Delta Dental Foundation has awarded grants to oral health programs in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. Learn more at www.nedelta.com. For more information about SMCS and its subsidiaries, please visit www.springfieldmed.org.

much needed service to patients," says Dr. Shrirao of Chester Family Dental.

"The Northeast Delta Dental Foundation is pleased to support Springfield Medical Care Systems

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Green Mountain Power alerts customers to phone scam

REGION – Green Mountain Power is warning customers about a bill payment phone scam that threatens customers with disconnection within the hour if they do not pay immediately. Customers received calls claiming to be from GMP and giving the customer a fake toll-free number to call, which is answered by a recording claiming to be Green Mountain Power.

These calls are not from Green Mountain Power, and customers

should hang up if they receive a call with such demands. If customers have any questions about their account status, they should call the authorized phone number for GMP at 888-835-4672.

"Customers should be very wary of giving any information over the phone unless they initiate the call," said Kristin Carlson, vice president strategic and external affairs. "Customers should know we will never demand immediate payment

through credit cards or pre-paid cards."

Customers receiving any call with these demands should follow these steps:

- Do not provide payment or any other personal information;
- Do not engage with the caller;
- Immediately hang up;
- Do not call back the number; and
- Call GMP Customer Service at 888-835-4672 to report what happened and share any information you are



GMP alerts customers of phone scams. STOCK PHOTO

able to provide, including name of the caller, caller's phone number, and substance of the call.

Customers are encouraged to report this scam by contacting the Vermont Attorney General's Office Consumer Assistance Program at 800-649-2424 (in-state only) or 802-656-3183 (from out of state numbers) or by visiting www.uvm.edu/consumer. GMP encourages customers to sign up for the recently launched Attorney General's Office Scam Alert program by visiting this web address where subscribers may opt to receive scam and fraud alerts from the by text message, email, or phone.

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sports



THIS AND THAT

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

Sitting in front of the computer starting to type as the first flakes of the next storm begin to fall. My initial reaction is "no more" and then I remember how much I loved the snow as a youngster. I guess it's fine to bring it on. My friends at Okemo smile at my recollections of snow.

There are some local rivalries this winter that should bring some excitement on a cold night. Alphabetically, Bellows Falls, Green Mountain, and Springfield all compete against each other in girls' basketball. They all have good teams and could win a game in the post season. These local match-ups are scheduled: Springfield at Green Mountain on Monday, Jan. 22; Bellows Falls at Springfield on Thursday, Jan. 25; Green Mountain at Springfield, Monday, January 29; Springfield at Bellows Falls Thursday, Feb. 1; and Bellows Falls at Green Mountain, Thursday, Feb. 8. The Terriers defeated the Chieftains 42-27 in the first meeting in this series. But Green Mountain stand out Hannah Buffum was just returning from a bout with pneumonia, and chances are that short-changed the gals from Chester, just a few points.

Buffum has certainly been a welcome transfer at Green Mountain. She had a strong fall season in goal for the girls' soccer team and was one of the pieces to a puzzle put together by Carolyn Hamilton that made the 2017 Soccer Chieftains one of the best of all time at the school. Hannah

is the daughter of Jeff Buffum, who was a solid basketball player for Bellows Falls in the mid-80s. Hannah played at Leland & Gray to begin her career.

Thanks to the people who contact me each week in response to my articles. Sometimes a writer has more of an impact than they think with a certain article. The column I wrote a couple of weeks back about the cooperation of Black River and Green Mountain figuring out a solution to the Black River gym problem brought a multitude of responses. One came with a hashtag #ForeverBlackRiverPresidents. So appropriate.

When researching the Black River Gym article, I thought deeply about the name of the facility and felt my advancing years was getting in the way of me remembering the official name. I made a call to bring me back to the living and lo and behold, all these years, there never was an official name, until now...

One person told me that new principal Karen Trimboli had given the facility a name. Thus, I called Trimboli, and she said, before she arrived on the high school scene, a buildings and grounds committee took numerous different suggestions from students, faculty, and community members before tagging the community use room with its name. Trimboli tells me, "The hall hosts so many events other than sporting events, they were looking for a different name than Café-a-gymnasium." The committee settled on Presidential Hall. I don't know about others, but I absolutely love it.

The Black River boys' basketball team's 1-5 record won't catch many people's attention. However, after talking to their coach Don Richard, I really believe this team is better than other recent editions of the President family. I get the feeling that they may jump up and bite a few teams this year. They might be a tournament draw that everyone wants to stay away from.

Unless a miracle comes along, Black River will close its doors in June 2020. They are not the only Vermont school headed in that direction over the next few years. There is plenty of talk around the state about whether there will still be a Division IV in a few years. I spoke to Bob Johnson, who heads the sports division of the Vermont Principals Association, and Bob admitted informal discussion of such a nature had taken place, but as of now nothing is even close to official. Odds are though, five present Division IV schools won't exist in two years. By the way, take a guess how many Division IV schools are presently competing in soccer, basketball, baseball, and softball. The answer is below.

Most readers will have some type an eye on the Patriots vs. Jaguars game this Sunday. If you are a real sports fan, just stop and think how phenomenal it is, in this day and age with salary caps and balance, that one professional team could go to seven straight league title games. That is absolutely incredible. I am a Patriots fan, but I am not one of those fans of the Flying Elvises, who say there is no way they can lose and have been saying that and been obnoxious about the league being against them at every turn and all that. But, there is history...

I always believed, as far back as I could remember, that the Yankees won the World Series almost every year. That statement was meant to cover my childhood years. I really believed that the Yankees basically were baseball. Today, I counted up the totals and from the time I really started following the sport until I entered the adult work world, the Yankees won the World Series one time in those 14 years. I guess because they won the American League pennant eight of those years and just before that period of my consciousness, they had won six of seven pennants and 14 out of 20, all the chatter about them was passed along from my elders and I learned to hate those pinstripes. In a related story, during my youth and early adult years, I met so many obnoxious Yankee fans, I characterized all of them that way. Now, I have to admit, many of my friends have become obnoxious Patriot fans. I now understand why, but, honestly...why did either group have to be that way.

DIVISION IV ANSWER- On the surface, Division IV in Vermont is alive and well, but there are some real glaring facts that have already shown up in Division IV girls' sports. The fall season has a healthy outlook with both girls' and boys' soccer fielding 17 teams this past fall in the division. Some girls' hoops teams have already put together some member to member teams in basketball and softball and some schools don't have softball at all any more. The state presently has 14 girls basketball teams, while the boys have 16 in Division IV and the spring has an even sadder answer, where baseball only fields 13 teams now and the girls' 10. Once Black River closes, this area will not have a team in Division IV.

If you would like to comment on the sports in this paper, feel free to email me at bmurphy@vermontjournal.com.

Black River boys' basketball team better than their record



Jon Mason drives the baseline and is a real threat on the court. PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



Zach Paul dribbles down the court. PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

LUDLOW, Vt. - Black River boys' basketball team has won one game. They beat West Rutland on the road 58-53. Their home games are on the road at Green Mountain so the odds are against them, but they keep getting better every game.

Black River should be everyone's favorite. They are starting to come of age. Their losses are not of the one-sided variety, which they use to be. They lost to Green Mountain 68-47 and 51-39, and both games were closer than the scoreboard read. Green Mountain coach Brian Rapanotti said, "They are really coming along."

They fell to Proctor twice, and the scores were 53-42 and 58-49. Last year, those contests were miles apart. They fell at Leland & Gray 57-45, but were without important players part of that contest. Teams are not looking forward to playing them, like they have in recent years. They are a dangerous 1-5 team.

Coach Don Richard has set a goal with his team. He says, "The goal is to make sure we are ready to play our best basketball in the middle of February." That is when the tournament is about to begin. The season begins then.

Jon Mason pictured driving the baseline, has become a real offensive threat. He tallied 17 in the first Green Mountain game, 20 versus Leland

& Gray, 16 in the West Rutland victory, and 20 at Proctor. Drew Schoenberger had 21 in the first Proctor game, 19 in the West Rutland win, 17 in the second Proctor game, and 20 in the second Green Mountain contest.

Zach Paul opened the season as the leading scorer versus rival Green Mountain with 18 and has been a contributor in many other ways since. Ryan Sheehan had 15, including four big threes in the second half to propel the West Rutland win, and Ryan Boyle has come up to be noticed in the scoring column the last two games with 8 in the second Proctor game and 11 in the most recent Green Mountain encounter.

Bellows Falls girls' basketball team has fastest start in years

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - One has to go back to 2008 to talk about any of the glory days of Bellows Falls Union High School girls' basketball. Jayne Barber was still the coach and the Lady Terriers advanced to the final four before bowing to Milton in the semifinals. Then shortly after, Barber rode off into the sunset.

There has been one post-season win for the Terrier girls since then. The Terriers caught a wave one afternoon in Orford, N.H. - where Vermont competing school Rivendel is located - and the team rode that wave perfectly to a 41-37 upset victory over a Rivendel team, who believed they had title chances that season. Other than that, post seasons have not been kind to the Terriers. Entering the tournament with low seeds, scores of 68-32, 63-30, 80-46, 81-34, 72-29, 53-34 and 47-26 have lined the official tournament records since the loss to Milton. Obviously, that Rivendel victory was something really special.

How different are things today? In some ways, that is hard to tell. One thing we know for sure, these Terriers are 8-1. There definitely had been growth last year when the team went 12-8 for the first winning record since the 15-5 in 2008. However, the 68-32 loss in that list of scores comes from the first round last year. Bellows Falls is a Division II school, which plays mostly a Division III/IV schedule. They played well over the season versus the Division III/IV field, but playing smaller schools gives you less DII points. They still were unable to earn a home game for the play-offs and when they were matched up with the DII eighth seed in the opening round, Bellows Falls was not competitive at all.

This year? This Terrier team is definitely better. They have a big home game Friday, Jan. 19 night at 7 p.m. versus last year's DIII Vermont state runner-up Windsor, in a game that should tell a lot. Windsor may be a DIII school, but they play mostly a DI/II schedule. They don't come into Bellows Falls with a winning record, but they have already played Brattleboro, Mill River, and Thetford - the team who defeated them in last winter's DIII final twice. They are an important test.

The 2017-18 Terriers have passed almost every test put before them. Most of their players have at least a year of varsity experience under their belt. They have won eight games in a row. The lone loss was in the opener at West Rutland 67-59. Since then, there have been victories at Arlington 48-31, home against Proctor 58-42, Arlington 40-24, and Mount Saint Joseph 46-38. Mount Saint Joseph

had dominated them in recent years. The streak continued at Black River 72-20, and then at home versus their toughest opponent to date Green Mountain, which they scored a 42-27 win. The latest two wins were at Leland & Gray 57-44, and home versus Poultney 65-33.

The Bellows Falls lone loss is tough to explain. Green Mountain defeated West Rutland 49-37. All I can say was that Bellows Falls coach Todd Wells was in his first day on the job and maybe things moved fast. Wells mentioned twice in slightly different words following that game, "I definitely saw a lot of positive things tonight. I think we will learn many things from this game." I guess he's a quick teacher, and the players are quick learners.

Halle Dickerson has led the way offensively in the point parade this season. She had 17 points in the opening night versus Westside, 14 in the second game against Arlington, and so on. She tossed in 7 in the latest contest against Poultney where the team's depth and balance allowed Abbe Cravinho to lead the way with 11 points. No less than seven Terriers scored 7 or more points, including Michelle Marchica and Jasmine Boucher with 8. Maddisyn DiBernardo, Taylor Goodell, Molly Potter, and Dickerson had 7 points each. Potter also cleaned an impressive 12 rebounds off the board in the Proctor victory.

Marchica also stood out with 12 rebounds in the first Arlington game, she had 10 points and 6 rebounds in the second Arlington encounter and had 8 big rebounds in the important win over Green Mountain. Taylor Goodell has been a big contributor thus far this season. The sophomore had 12 points at Arlington, 8 points and an impressive 11 rebounds versus Mount Saint Joseph, and 12 points and 10 rebounds at Leland & Gray.

Madison Streeter had a big 7 steals to spark the first win over Arlington



Molly Potter takes a shot to add to her impressive point count this season. PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



Halle Dickerson (10) shoots for another basket. She leads the way in offensive play. PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

FM Athletes going undefeated

LANGDON, N.H. - Fall Mountain Regional High School has once again put together another strong team of Unified Basketball Athletes. The team has already faced Keene and Newport, and will be challenged by Hanover and Stevens on Jan. 17-18.

Coach Amanda Chamberlain is looking forward to two more wins this coming week, which will bring their record to 4-0. "We are coming off of a very good season from last year and have an outstanding TEAM of athletes and student partners," she says.

Coach Smokey Aumand adds, "These players put their whole hearts into the game, and they can dribble, pass, shoot, and rebound with the best of them. If you want to have fun while watching a good game where the players' are having a blast, you have to come on out to a Fall Mountain Unified Basketball game."



Athletes: Zac Call (1), Russell Putnam (3), Nick Norton (4), Zac Nutting (5), Riley Floyd (10), Zac Flanders (11), Carroll Tenney (20), Adele Towne (24), Owen Elliott (25), Taylor Roy (40). Partners: Mason Lantz (13), Elissa Brady (15), Meghan Spaulding (31), Nicole Limoges (32), Hannah McCormick (33), Prett Shaw (34), Louise Groton (42), Morgan Snelling (43) and Mary Ronning (44). Coaches: Amanda Chamberlain and Smokey Aumand. PHOTO BY JIMMY SMITH

and then was the high scorer in the next game against Proctor with 12, including three three-pointers. She also was in the middle of things with 4 big steals in the Mount Saint Joseph win, especially in the third quarter when they pulled away. Streeter also contributed 12 points in the Black River victory.

Cravinho's 11 points in the most recent game was mentioned. She also had a timely 7 steals to lead a surge to victory in the Proctor game and tallied 10 points in the big Green Mountain win. Brigid Hodsden scored in double figures with 14 in the Black River contest.

Wells says, "We continue to get better, but we are always looking to improve. Windsor is a big game on Friday. When a team is 8-1 and continually looking to improve themselves, every game is a big game."

arts & entertainment

You can draw!

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Have you always wanted to learn how to draw? Christine Mix, children's illustrator and author says you can be taught to draw after learning some basic techniques. Mix will share her experience in a workshop at the Meeting Place at Neighborhood Connections on Tuesday, Jan. 23 from 4-6 p.m. Call 802-824-4343 to register to attend.

This fun program will present some basic abstract drawing exercises - exploring lines, shapes, and color. Mix will share drawing tricks for illustrating people, children, animals, and landscapes. This workshop is good for beginners of all ages - from early childhood to adults who never believed they could draw! Children under 6 must be accompanied by an adult.

Mix graduated with a B.A. in Fine Arts and another B.A. in Mass Communication at the University of South Florida in 1988. Soon after she painted her first children's illustration in watercolor, titled "Spike & Wordo's Magical Wish." Spike the



Learn how to draw.

STOCK PHOTO

Dragon was born, and Mix realized she had found her niche. Her illustrations have been exhibited locally at the Chaffee Art's Center, the Southern Vermont Center, the South Londonderry Free Library, Mary Canfield Free Library, the Dorset Library, and the Middlebury Arts

Walk. She has also exhibited in Poe Park, the Bronx, and at the Brooklyn Library.

The Meeting Place at Neighborhood Connections is located in Londonderry's Mountain Marketplace, next to the Londonderry Post Office.

Canal Street Art Gallery group show and opening reception

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The public is invited to attend the opening reception of the Winter 2018 Group Show, the premier show at the new Canal Street Art Gallery. Take part in celebrating contemporary artists working in a diverse range of mediums, styles, and voices from 5 - 8 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 19.

The Winter 2018 Group Show will be on view to the public from Jan. 19 through March 15. The Gallery is located at 23 Canal Street in the historic downtown of Bellows Falls, Vt. and is open Wednesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and all other days by appointment.

The intention of the premier show at Canal Street Art Gallery is to reach out to the local, as well as the greater area art community. There is always a need for more open spaces where artists



Canal Street Art Gallery in Bellows Falls.

PHOTO PROVIDED

participating in the Winter 2018 Group Show are paying a small exhibition fee to help with gallery expenses, and all sales are direct to the artists.

Canal Street Art Gallery was founded in March 2017 as Ad Hoc Art Gallery by three artists, who saw a need for a centralized and active location for creating and sharing art in the town of Rockingham, Vt. The gallery represents contemporary artists in all mediums and styles, and offers an open space where all creative voices may be heard.

For more information about the Winter 2018 Group Show and Canal Street Art Gallery please contact Emmett or Mike at the gallery by phone 802-289-0104, email 23canalstreetgallery@gmail.com, or online at www.canalstreetart-gallery.com.

Benjamin Franklin: America's First Citizen performance with Patrick Garner at Claremont Opera House

CLAREMONT, N.H. - "Benjamin Franklin: America's First Citizen" will be performed at the Claremont Opera House on Friday, April 6, 2018 at 10 a.m.

Patrick Garner, 20-plus-years Broadway, television, and movie veteran brings to life the nation's

favorite founding father, the man who tamed lightning and conquered crowns, to demonstrate how a life of self-discipline, inquiry, public service, and a genuine love of life led to international fame and the gratitude of a nation. This 45-minute performance is recommended for ages 5

and up.

Garner's work in children's books led him to found his own company, History's Alive!, to help students not merely learn history but learn from history. Now in its 10th year, and seventh year associated with Theatretworks USA, Garner travels

the country with his shows about Thomas Edison, Lewis and Clark, Ben Franklin, the Wright brothers (and sister), Houdini, Archimedes, and American tall tales.

This will be Garner's third time at Claremont Opera House. Students, teachers, and even Mayor Charlene Lovett, have been entertained and educated by Garner's performances. The opera house was pleased by how engaged the students were and how many questions they had for Garner after the show.

Garner returns Friday, April 6, at 10 a.m. to bring Ben Franklin and history to life. For information on tickets, please call the opera house at 603-542-0064.



Patrick Garner plays Benjamin Franklin.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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IN OUR ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

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Community appreciation sale and exhibits at VAULT

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - It's almost here, Gallery at the VAULT's Community Appreciation Sale. Choose from the creations of 160 artists! We thank our artists, customers, volunteers, donors, and all those who make VAULT a strong and beautiful community art center. This special

sale will run from Jan. 17 through 31.

Step back in time and view Joe Tantillo's Springfield photographs, "Springfield's Machine Tool Shops and Countryside," now on special exhibit and for sale. This is your chance to own a piece of Springfield History.



Gallery at the VAULT is having a sale on over 160 artists' works.

STOCK PHOTO

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arts & entertainment

First annual Bowling for Hunger tournament

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Wintertime fun for a great cause! Grab some canned goods, a few friends, and bowl for hunger! On Sunday, Feb. 18 at 10 a.m., Up Your Alley will be hosting Springfield's first annual Bowling for Hunger Tournament. This event will be a great way to take your mind off the cold, keep your blood moving, and do a good deed for the community.

Teams of four will compete on Springfield's favorite bowling lanes to raise money for the Food Pantry at the Springfield Family Center. Highlights will include raffles, a 50/50, door prizes, and the joys of good-natured competition! Up Your Alley will also be collecting food items - especially canned tuna, chicken, or salmon; peanut butter; meals in a can like soup, stew, and chili; low-sodium canned vegetables; canned fruit in its own juice or water; olive or canola oil; spices (cinnamon, chili powder, cumin, salt-free spice blends); canned foods with pop-top lids; low-sugar whole grain cereals; and healthy



Bowling for Hunger tournament at Up Your Alley.

STOCK PHOTO

snacks like granola bars, nuts, and dried fruit.

Receive an additional raffle ticket for every item of food you donate! There is a cost to enter into the tournament. All proceeds benefit Springfield Food Pantry. Call Rob

802-885-5087 today to reserve your team spot and strike out hunger!

Article written by Caitlin Christiana, Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce.

"Jack and the Beanstalk, presented by the Woefully Underprepared Players"

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. - New England Youth Theatre presents "Jack and the Beanstalk. Presented by the Woefully Underprepared Players," an original play written by Marcel Freda, and directed by Marcel Freda, Danielle Sessler, and Shannon Ward, to be performed at 7 p.m. on Jan. 19 & 20 and at 2 p.m. on Jan. 20 at NEYT, 100 Flat Street in Brattleboro.

What else can go wrong? No actors, no props, no set, no costumes, and only five minutes until the curtain goes up! In this hilarious re-telling of the tale of Jack and his infamous beanstalk, Freda and his group of amazing young people from NEYT's Town School Theater program invite audiences for three showings of their original comedy, "Jack and The Beanstalk Presented by The Woefully Underprepared Players."

Town School Theater is NEYT's free theatre experience for children in grades 4-6 attending Brattleboro's town elementary schools. This collaboration between NEYT, the Academy, Green Street, and Oak Grove schools brings elementary students into NEYT's theater space for after-school, arts-based educational programming. The program is free, and provides transportation for the children from their respective schools to the theater, thus removing the barrier of both cost and transportation for those who might not otherwise have the opportunity to participate in after-school arts education.

The program aims to engage children at all levels of production, inviting them to participate not just as performers, but as collaborators whose ideas and visions are both heard and respected. "Empowering the kids in this way allows them to grow both as artists and as human beings. They learn to collaborate with their peers, which in turn helps build their confidence," says Freda, as can be witnessed at a recent rehearsal, with the children both offering up suggestions, and applauding their cast mates' successes. Freda is a recent transplant to Brattleboro, having moved here from St. John, USVI, where he worked at NEYT's sister school, the Gift Hill School, which was badly damaged by Hurricanes Irma and Maria. "These kids astonish me every day with their energy and creativity," adds Freda, "I am so lucky to have this experience and to learn and grow alongside them."

This production is the first of two fully produced original plays put on by Town Schools Theatre on the NEYT stage this school year, with another session beginning in the spring of 2018.

Can producer Callie Power and her rag-tag team of volunteer stagehands put on a show good enough to save their beloved playhouse? It'll take a village to save this community theater! Don't miss this lively and rollicking show!

Tickets may be purchased in advance at www.neyt.org, in person at the NEYT Box Office, or by phone 802-246-6398 from 12-5 p.m. on Wednesdays. The show plays at New England Youth Theatre, 100 Flat St.

Brattleboro. New England Youth Theatre is an accessible theater, with accommodations for wheelchairs, and Assistive Listening Devices for patrons who are hard of hearing.

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"Les Miserables" is FOLA's musical feature on Jan. 20

LUDLOW, Vt. - Friends of Ludlow Auditorium (FOLA) will feature the musical, "Les Miserables," on Saturday, Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. in the Ludlow Town Hall Auditorium. "Les Misérables in Concert: The 25th Anniversary" was performed at the O2 in North Greenwich, London, England on Sunday, Oct. 3, 2010.

It has music by Claude-Michel Schönberg and original French-language lyrics by Alain Boublil and Jean-Marc Natel, alongside an English-language libretto with accompanying English-language lyrics by Herbert Kretzmer.

The London production has run continuously since October 1985, making it the longest-running musical in the West End and the second longest-running musical in the world after the original Off-Broadway run of "The Fantasticks."

It features Alfie Boe as Jean Valjean, Norm Lewis as Javert, Lea Salonga as Fantine, Nick Jonas as Marius, Katie Hall as Cosette, Ramin Karimloo as Enjolras, Samantha Barks as Éponine, Mia Jenkins as Young Cosette, Robert Madge as Gavroche, Matt Lucas and Jenny Galloway as the Thénardiers, and Earl Carpenter as the Bishop



Les Miserables at FOLA.

PHOTO PROVIDED

of Digne.

Based on the classic novel by Victor Hugo, "Les Miserables" is set in early 19th-century France. It is the story of Jean Valjean, a French peasant, and his quest for redemption after serving 19 years in jail for having stolen a loaf of bread for his sister's starving child. Valjean decides to break his parole and start his life anew after a kindly bishop inspires him by a tremendous act of mercy,

but he is relentlessly tracked down by a police inspector named Javert. Along the way, Valjean and a slew of characters are swept into a revolutionary period in France, where a group of young idealists make their last stand at a street barricade.

The musical is open to everyone and is free; donations are appreciated. Information is available at 802-228-7239 and the FOLA web site, www.fola.us.

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outdoor news

National Ski Patrol visits Killington for National Safety Awareness Month

KILLINGTON, Vt. – Killington Resort welcomes the National Ski Patrol for a meet and greet with guests on Jan. 27 and 28, 2018 to promote snow sports safety for National Safety Awareness Month. Plus, guests who purchase a helmet at any Killington Sports location on-site or online at www.killingtonsports.com Jan. 12-21, 2018 will receive a free lift ticket valid any day Jan. 22, 2018 through the end of the 2017/18 winter season.

In conjunction with the National Ski Areas Association and National Ski Patrol, Killington Resort will be educating skiers and riders about slope safety awareness throughout the month of January by promoting “Your Responsibility Code” and “Smart Style,” plus offering special promotions and interactive displays to raise awareness.

“New this year, we’ve added safety lounges where skiers and riders have the opportunity to con-



Learn about ski and ride safety during National Safety Awareness Month. PHOTO PROVIDED

nect directly with members of our Ski Patrol team including an après safety lounge featuring live music,

give-a-ways and safety messaging,” says Justin Guth, risk manager at Killington Resort and Pico Moun-

tain. “We’ve put together activities to reach avid skiers and riders in addition to beginners and children to promote safe speeds and collision awareness. Other activities include opportunities to win helmets, interactive displays, safety videos, kids crafts and more.”

Killington Resort is also partnering with Killington Elementary School by donating art supplies for a poster contest directed at skier safety. The winners’ artwork will be displayed at the resort throughout January. On the hill, an assortment of safety awareness flyers, cards, and stickers will be available throughout the resort. Ambassadors, patrollers, and instructors will be handing out Know the Code stickers and cards, Smart Style stickers, and a Freestyle Terrain User’s Guide to guests.

For more information and a full list of activities during National Safety Awareness Month, visit www.Killington.com/safety.



Okemo

LUDLOW, Vt. - A recent beautiful day of blue skies and groomed trails on Okemo Mountain.

PHOTO BY SHAWN TAE STILLWELL

Snowshoe for the Cure® at Stratton Mountain

WINHALL, Vt. - Komen New England Snowshoe for the Cure® will be held on Sunday, Jan. 21, 2018 at the Sun Bowl, of presenting sponsor, Stratton Mountain, Vt. Snowshoe for the Cure® is a family-friendly event with fun for everyone, including a

kids’ snowshoe dash.

Snowshoe for the Cure® allows Komen New England to support thousands of local families through funding for critical breast care services and groundbreaking research. Participants can race or walk as part

of a team, or as an individual, or volunteer, donate, or become a supporting sponsor to help Komen reach its bold goal of reducing breast cancer deaths by 50 percent in the United States by 2026.

As in past years, Snowshoe for the Cure® will kick-off at Stratton’s Sun Bowl Base Area at 9 a.m. with a friendly, competitive 3K Snowshoe Race, with prizes awarded to the top three female and male racers and the top three survivors. There are two non-competitive Snowshoe Walks (a 3K and a 5K).

There is also a free Snowshoe Dash for 5 and younger set, so be sure to bring the kids. No snowshoe experience is required! As a matter of fact, snowshoes aren’t even required; free loaner snowshoes will be avail-



Snowshoe for the Cure.

PHOTO BY LEE KROHN PHOTOGRAPHY

able from Official Snowshoe Partner Tubbs Snowshoes, Inc. (while supplies last). All participants will receive a commemorative t-shirt.

Individual and team fundraising is encouraged. Local sponsor Von Bergen’s (in Stratton Village) has donated an amazing prize for the Top Overall Fundraiser: an 18-karat

yellow gold ‘Tubbs’ style snowshoe charm, designed and handmade in their Vermont studio, on an 18-karat yellow gold, 18 inch chain equipped with a lobster clasp. Additional fundraising awards will be made to individuals raising \$250 or more for the event. The top fundraising teams will be recognized as well.

There will be Komen merchandise for sale, as well as a raffle with gift certificates and Vermont products. New this year, a Packet Pick Up party to be held at Black Bear Lodge at Stratton Mountain Resort, Saturday, Jan. 20, 4-7 p.m. Pre-registered participants can pick up bib and t-shirt; new registrations will be taken. Donations may be dropped off. All donations received by 6 p.m. on Saturday count towards fundraising awards. There will be appetizers, music, and a cash bar. Do plan on coming to meet fellow snowshoers. You don’t want to miss out this fun! To register online through Friday, Jan. 19, visit www.komennewengland.org. To volunteer or get more information, call Linda at 802-362-2733.

Historical land use change & the wildlife of Vermont presentation

RUTLAND, Vt. - Learn about the history of land use in what is now Vermont from the time of the Native Americans to present and about its effects on the state’s native wildlife populations. This informative presentation will be given by Kim Royar, a biologist with the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife on Tuesday, Jan. 23, from 6:30 – 8 p.m. She will discuss how human changes to the landscape influenced the wildlife that live in Vermont, particularly beaver, otter, coyote, bobcat, and wolf, etc. The presentation will be held at the USDA Forest Service Office Conference Room located at 231 North Main Street in Rutland, Vt. This event is free and family friendly. Royar has worked for the department for 36 years in various roles including as a habitat biologist, fur-bearer biologist, Deputy Commissioner, and private lands biologist. She is passionate about maintaining Vermont’s beautiful landscape for both wildlife and future generations of people.

Registration is suggested. Register online at www.vermontwoodlands.org/workshops, email info@vermontwoodlands.org or call the VWA office at 802-747-7900.

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ON THE SNOW

	Lifts	Snow Depth	Snowfall
Killington Resort	20 / 21	18"	0" (1/15)
Magic Mountain	3 / 5	18"	0" (1/15)
Okemo Mountain Resort	14 / 20	40"	0" (1/15)
Stratton Mountain	11 / 12	26"	0" (1/15)
Sugarbush	13 / 16	36"	0" (1/15)

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www.affordable-hairstyling.com
www.facebook.com/affordablehairstylin

Michelle Moseley purchased Affordable Hairstyling Aug. 23, 1991. She is the sole owner and operator, with experience in all facets of hairstyling, makeup, and nails. When she was 8 years old, Moseley wanted to be either a teacher or a hairstylist. As a full-time mom she says she "fell into hairstyling" having graduated from the Keene Beauty Academy and then purchasing the established Affordable Hairstyling from downtown Charlestown. She was 25 years old when she purchased the business. Back then, having become a young business owner, she thought, "What am I doing?"

Moseley moved Affordable Hairstyling to her renovated garage/salon on Main Street so she could raise her family and work from home. Her father did the renovations from a one-car garage to a prime-location salon. The business is now going onto its 26th year.

Many of her clients have been with her for most of that time. "I've watched [kids] grow up," she said. "They used to see me in town and say 'It's the hair cut lady.'" Several of those very same kids will come back to get their hair cut during vacations before they head back to college. Quality services are reasonably priced. "Affordable doesn't mean cheap," she said.

Moseley will do hair and make up for weddings and proms. Hair styling includes cuts for women, men, and children. Hairstyling includes shampoo, cuts, styling, perms, color and highlight, braids, and up-dos. For men, services also include beard and mustache grooming. Moseley also provides manicures, pedicures, facial waxing, and make up. A free consultation is required for both make up and wedding hairstyling.

Moseley will also do house calls in New Hampshire up to 20 miles away from her salon. It's especially popular in the winter when seniors might not want to brave bad weather for a hair cut. Appointments can be made by calling or texting Moseley. Affordable Hairstyling is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9 a.m. to Noon and 2 - 5 p.m.; Tuesday 8 a.m. to Noon; and Saturday by appointment only. Closed on Sunday.



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Vt. & N.H. - Visiting Nurse and Hospice is now hiring Licensed Nursing Assistants. Enable patients to stay in their homes by providing support and personal care services. Minimum starting wage of \$12.50 an hour. Must be licensed. Call 888-300-8853 or visit vnhcare.org/jobs. (02/04)

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art

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GALLERY AT THE VAULT

Step into this historic 1907 bank and find creations of 160 local and regional artists. Exhibits include Steampunk, Gil Perry's little paintings, Teresa Hilary's handpainted scarves, and Open Wall. Workshops offered. VAULT, a Vermont State Craft Center, is on 68 Main St., Springfield. Tues. - Sat. 11 to 5 galleryvault.org 802-885-7111 (03/06/18)

bakery

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Contact Antonio Diaz: cell 802-779-8117, office 802-297-7680, antonio.noel.diaz@gmail.com (12/04/18)

chiropractor

FOUR SEASONS CHIROPRACTIC, PC

Dr. Denise Natale 58 Parker Avenue, Proctorsville, VT 05153, 802-226-7977 Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10AM-6PM (08/01/18 TFN)

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Stove Cleanings and Service: Any Makes and Models - Wood and Pellet Units - thestovedepot.comcast.net (802)747-9950 North Clarendon, (802)824-3677 Londonderry (01/18/18 TFN)

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home decorating & remodeling

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calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

MONDAY, JAN. 22 – LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Doreen Fabiano, certified in Tai Chi, begins a free six-week course at The Meeting Place at Neighborhood Connections beginning Monday, Jan. 22 at 10 a.m. Originally conceived as a Chinese martial art, Tai Chi offers excellent health benefits. The practice aids in fall prevention, diabetes, arthritis, and balance and is good for overall healthcare. If you ever wanted to try Tai Chi, now is your opportunity. This program is offered at no charge, but space is limited. Call 824-4343 if you would like to attend.

MONDAY, JAN. 29 PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts Project continues its highly-popular cooking class series with “Soups and Stews of Spain and Portugal,” on Monday, Jan. 29, from 6 – 9 p.m., taught by acclaimed chef, Linda Stavely. Learn to make these six Spanish and Portuguese soups and stews: Sopa de Pedra (Portuguese stone soup, hearty vegetable soup), Caldo Verde (Portuguese green soup, sausage, kale and veggies), Caldeirada a Moda de Guincho (Portuguese

fish chowder), Sopa de Ajo (Spanish spicy garlic soup), Sopa al Cuarto de Hora (Spanish clam, shrimp, and rice soup), and Caldo Gallego (Spanish bean, potato and meat stew). The class will dine together, wine and bread will be included. The classes are held at Next Stage’s recently completely renovated state-of-the-art commercial kitchen, 15 Kimball Hill, in Putney. Registration is limited, tickets available at nextstagearts.org.

MONDAY, FEB. 12 PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts Project continues its highly-popular cooking class series, just in time for Valentine’s Day, with “Chocolate Celebration”, on Monday, Feb. 12, from 6 – 9 p.m., at Next Stage in Putney, taught by acclaimed chef, Linda Stavely. Registration is limited, tickets available at nextstagearts.org. Learn all about chocolate including how to melt chocolate, the different kinds of chocolate and when to use each as we make Chocolate Fallen Souffle Cake, Chocolate Espresso Pots de Cream, salted caramels dipped in dark chocolate, Chocolate Cups, Hot Fudge Sauce, fruit dipped in different chocolates, chocolate coated bacon, pretzels, and crackers. The class will dine together, and wine will be included. The

classes are held at Next Stage’s recently completely renovated state-of-the-art commercial kitchen, 15 Kimball Hill, in Putney.

MONDAYS - BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Bellows Falls Area Senior Center Knit and Stitch group meets Mondays at 9 a.m. They can help you finish a project, repair an item and even take on special projects. The group is happy to donate “Knitted Knockers” to breast cancer survivors. Stop by and ask for Betty for more information. Call: 802-463-3907. TFN

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – 9-10:30 a.m. Playgroup at the Springfield Area Parent Child Center. Come to play and meet new friends. All parents with young children are welcomed. Contact Celeste at 802-886-5242 or email at celestem@vermont.net. TFN

TUESDAYS- BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - River Voices Poetry meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Flat Iron Exchange building on the Square. All poets welcome. Discussion of all aspects of the poem. 802-463-2204. TFN

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. - 9:30-11 a.m. Play Group at Saxtons River Elementary School. Come on over for crafts, activities and

to play! Call Molly 802-376-6204. TFN

WEDNESDAYS - BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Bellows Falls Area Senior Center Knit and Stitch group meets Wednesdays at 9 a.m. They can help you finish a project, repair an item and even take on special projects. Call: 802-463-3907. TFN

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Play Group at First Baptist Church of Bellows Falls/Rockingham Recreation Center. 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Come join the fun! Healthy snack served. Call Molly 802-376-6204. TFN

CAVENDISH, Vt. – From 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., there will be a Tai Chi beginners’ class at DG Bodyworks, 7 Depot St. in Cavendish/Proctorsville, Vt., next to the Post Office at the corner of Rte 131 and Depot St. There is a monthly tuition cost. To learn more about the classes, please contact Djemila at 802-490-0225, by email: djem.translator@gmail.com or check for updates on Facebook: www.facebook.com/gemstaichi/. TFN

CHESTER, Vt. - Liza Eaton, founder of Buddhaful Yoga, will be offering a Gentle Flow Kundalini Yoga class for beginners every Wednesday 9:30-11 a.m. You will be encouraged to go at your own pace and listen to your body. Held at the Fullerton Inn, on the Chester Green. For more information visit www.buddhafulyoga.com or call 802-875-2868. TFN

THURSDAYS - CHESTER, Vt. – Strength-building chair yoga class with Liz Eaton, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Fullerton Inn, Main Street, Chester. This is a strength building yoga class in the hatha tradition for anyone looking to build bone density, physical strength, flexibility and endurance. Come as you are and do what you can. Use a chair, yoga mat, or both! Drop in anytime or purchase a few classes at once. No experience necessary. For details, contact 802-875-2868, eaton.liza@gmail.com or www.buddhafulyoga.com. TFN

CHESTER, Vt. – Meditation class with Liz Eaton takes place on Thursday, 10:45-11:15 a.m. at the Fullerton Inn, Main Street, Chester. Learn simple yet profound meditation techniques for beginners (all levels welcome). There is no fee for this class; donations are appreciated. For details, contact 802-875-2868, eaton.liza@gmail.com or www.buddhafulyoga.com. TFN

WINDSOR, Vt. - Play Group 9:30 - 11 a.m. Come and enjoy an open gym, ball games and sometimes even a bounce house! Call Windsor Recreation Center 802-674-6783. TFN

LUDLOW, Vt. – Okemo Valley TV offers “Train the Trainers” workshops on fourth Thursdays at no cost, 6-7 p.m. at the Okemo Valley TV studio, 37C Main St. in Ludlow. Everyone who wants to learn the “ticks and tricks” of TV-video production is welcome. Reserve

a space at pcody@lptv.org or call 802-228-8808. TFN

FRIDAYS - CHESTER, Vt. - Liza Eaton, founder of Buddhaful Yoga, will be offering Kundalini Yoga Dance every Friday 9:30-11 a.m. Held at the Fullerton Inn, on the Chester Green. For more information visit www.buddhafulyoga.com or call 802-875-2868. TFN

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Fridays, 9-11 a.m. creative movement activities and playgroup held in the gym of the Community Center. All parents with young children are welcome. Contact Parks and Recreation Dept. at 802-885-2727. TFN

SATURDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Edgar May Open Play Group 10-11:30 a.m. at Studio Momentum, 71 Main St. An active playtime specifically designed for children aged 6 months through 5 years! Free to member families. Call 802-885-2568 or info@myrecenter.org. TFN

WEEKLY – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Youth swim lessons are offered on Saturday and Sunday mornings and Tuesday afternoons. Current classes available including our Parent and Toddler class in our warm water therapy pool as well as levels 1, 2, and 3. Our adult swim lessons are on Thursday mornings and feature three levels: Stroke Development, Stroke Improvement, and Stroke Refinement. We also offer a special class, Swimming for the Petrified, by appointment call 802-885-2568 or visit www.myrecenter.org. TFN

REGION - Bone Builders to combat osteoporosis. Free and open to 55+. Call 802-674-4547. Monday and Wednesday: Brownsville Town Hall 9 -10 a.m.; Martin Memorial Hall in Acutney 10-11 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday: Cavendish Baptist

Church 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday: Andover Community Church 3 – 4 p.m. TFN

CLUBS

THURSDAY, JAN. 18 - LANDGROVE, Vt. – Join the Green Mountain Club, Manchester Section on Thursday Jan. 18 for a snowshoe hike along the 2-mile loop of Lower Little Michigan in the MVTA trails system. This is a good beginner snowshoe with a couple hundred feet of elevation change over the 2 miles. Meet at the parking lot at the end of Little Michigan Rd in Landgrove at 10 a.m. Bring extra clothes, fluids and snack. RSVP to Marge Fish at 802-384-3654 or marge.fish@gmail.com.

MONDAYS – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Springfield Community Chorus rehearsals are on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church on 21 Fairground Rd. Contact Terri at springfieldcommunitychorus@gmail.com or call Barbara at 802-886-1777. www.springfieldcommunitychorus.org. TFN

TUESDAYS- LUDLOW, Vt. – Ludlow Rotary Club meets every Tuesday and is hosted by DJ’s Restaurant, 146 Main St. from 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Enter via side door opposite bank drive-through. Visit www.ludlowrotary.com or contact club President, Tessa Buss at teshabuss@gmail.com. TFN

THURSDAYS – CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – The Charlestown Rotary Club meets at the Charlestown Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. on Summer Street. For more information email rayandrosie@comcast.net. TFN

RUTLAND, Vt. – Marble Valley Duplicate Bridge Club meets from 7-10:30 p.m. at the Godnick Center in Rutland, Vt.

ADVERTISEMENTS

PLEASE NOTE!

ALL ADVERTISEMENTS: BOX/DISPLAY ADS, CLASSIFIEDS, REAL ESTATE, AUTOMOTIVE, DINING, HOSPITALITY, ETCETERA SHOULD BE SENT TO

ADS@VERMONTJOURNAL.COM

Advertisements that are not sent to Shawntae at Ads@VermontJournal.com are NOT guaranteed to be published

The Deadline for ALL Advertisement Reservations is Friday by 12 noon, Approvals by 5 pm for the following Wednesday Publication



The Grafton Inn in Grafton, VT is hiring

We’re hiring a full-time Housekeeping Manager, and part-time Housekeepers, as well as part time Breakfast Servers and Servers for our busy pub and dining room. Experience in hospitality is a must.

Accepting resumes at info@graffoninnvermont.com or stop in to fill out an application. www.graffoninnvermont.com 802.843.2248

TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM MANAGER SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Town of Rockingham Selectboard and the Bellows Falls Village Corporation Board of Trustees is forming a Manager Search Committee to develop a job description and hiring process for the next Municipal Manager. Any Rockingham/Bellows Falls resident interested in serving on this committee is asked to forward a letter of interest to Municipal Manager Search Committee, c/o Kerry Bennett, P.O. Box 370, Bellows Falls, VT 05101, or email to execast@rockbf.org by 3:00 p.m. on January 30, 2018.

TOWN OF LUDLOW, VERMONT POSITION AVAILABLE PART-TIME POLICE DISPATCHER

The Town of Ludlow invites applications for the position of Part-Time Police Dispatcher. Applicant must be organized and able to communicate effectively in written and oral form. Must be able to work all shifts, including midnight. Computer experience is required. Send resume in confidence with references to the Chief of Police, Town of Ludlow, PO Box 359, Ludlow, VT, 05149. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Ludlow is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		9	7					6
4	8				6	9		
		3		2		5	7	
	1		6					9
		6			5			1
8			1	9		3		
6					8		2	
	4	2	3					8
5				1	6	4		

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦
 ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Nasty insect
- 5 Badly lit
- 8 Error
- 12 Chills and fever
- 13 Kreskin’s claim
- 14 Docket entry
- 15 In reverie
- 17 Anger
- 18 Dine
- 19 Sternward
- 20 Dissuade
- 21 Firmament
- 22 Stop — dime
- 23 Augment
- 26 Firm
- 30 Needy
- 31 Hockey milieu
- 32 Concept
- 33 Get
- 35 Pry
- 36 Singer
- 37 Winehouse
- 37 Droop
- 38 Cut corners
- 41 Huge
- 42 Greek cross
- 45 Actress Gilpin
- 46 "... twilight’s last —"
- 48 Privy to
- 49 Boxer
- 50 Pedestal occupant
- 51 Chinatown gang
- 52 Witness

DOWN

- 1 Test the waters
- 2 City of India
- 3 Fat
- 4 Pod denizen
- 5 Treat as a god
- 6 "— It Romantic?"
- 7 Gasoline stat
- 8 Very conspicuous
- 9 Cafe au —
- 10 Capri, e.g.
- 11 Equal
- 16 Shark variety
- 20 Modern-day evidence
- 21 Like some video on the Web
- 22 Praise in verse
- 23 Spring mo.
- 24 Buck’s mate
- 25 One of the Seven Dwarfs
- 26 High card
- 27 Commotion
- 28 Modern (Pref.)
- 29 Spigot
- 31 Wall climber
- 34 Mischievous one
- 35 Long story
- 37 Prolonged attack
- 38 Skewer
- 39 Gambling game
- 40 Press agent?
- 41 Sad
- 42 Ocean motion
- 43 In due time
- 44 Homely
- 46 Navig. aid
- 47 Central

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You’re eager to take on that new opportunity opening up as January gives way to February. Now all you need to do is resist quitting too early. Do your best to stay with it.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Doff a bit of that careful, conservative outlook and let your brave Bovine self take a chance on meeting that new challenge. You could be surprised at how well you do.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might not want to return to the more serious tasks facing you. But you know it’s what you must do. Cheer up. Something more pleasant soon will occupy your time.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) As you dutifully tidy up your end-of-the-month tasks, your fun self emerges to urge you to do something special: A trip (or a cruise, maybe?) could be just what you need.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Your achievements are admirable as you close out the month with a roar. Now you can treat yourself to some well-earned time off for fun with family or friends. (Or both!)

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Be sure you know the facts before you assume someone is holding back on your project. Try to open your mind before you give someone a piece of it.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You might feel comfortable in your familiar surroundings, but it might be time to venture into something new. There’s a challenge out there that’s just right for you.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your love of things that are new gets a big boost as you encounter a situation that opens up new and exciting vistas. How far you go with it depends on you.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) That recent workplace shift might not seem to be paying off as you expected. But be patient. There are changes coming that could make a big difference.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) While few can match the Goat’s fiscal wizardry, you still need to be wary in your dealings. There might be a problem you should know about sooner rather than later.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Easy does it when it comes to love and all the other good things in life. Don’t try to force them to develop on your schedule. Best to let it happen naturally.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A surprise decision by someone you trust causes some stormy moments. But a frank discussion explains everything, and helps save a cherished relationship.

BORN THIS WEEK: Sometimes you forget to take care of yourself, because you’re so busy caring for others. But you wouldn’t have it any other way.

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TAKE A BREAK!

AUTOMOTIVE

calendar

CLUBS CONT.

THURSDAYS CONT. - Snacks provided. Come join for a fun evening. More info call 802-228-6276. TFN

SATURDAYS - **MOUNT HOLLY, Vt.** - Still life drawing. The Mount Holly Artists Group meets at 10:30 a.m. in the community center room (under library) and sets up a still life. The sessions are open to all and free of charge. All that is needed is pen and paper. TFN

SUNDAYS - **SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** - The Catamount Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol meets at 3:30-6:30 p.m. most Sundays at Squadron Headquarters, 13 Airport Road, N. Springfield. Membership is open to ages 12 and up. Call Commander Capt. Tom Williams at 802-558-5571, Twilliams@vtcap.org. TFN

COMMUNITY MEALS

SATURDAY, JAN. 20 - **SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** - North Springfield Baptist Church, 69 Main Street will hold a Ham Supper on Saturday, Jan. 20, from 4 to 7 p.m. Menu features ham, raisin sauce, mashed potato, carrots, coleslaw, dessert and beverage. Handicapped accessible. Children five and under free. Call 802-886-8107 for more information.

SATURDAYS - **CHESTER, Vt.** - Gassetts Grange holds a buffet breakfast every month on the 1st Saturday at 8-9:30 a.m. It consists of eggs, bacon, sausage, home fries, toast, pancakes (blueberry and plain), real maple syrup, juice, coffee, tea, and hot cocoa. All are welcome! Admission at the door. Hope to see you there. We are located on Route 103N, just above junction of 103 and Route 10. Any questions, call Dave at 802-875-2637. TFN

WEEKDAYS - **BELLOWS FALLS, Vt.** - The Bellows Falls Area Senior Center serves lunch 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Monday through Friday to area seniors. The Senior Meals menu for the week is available by calling 802-463-3907. The Bellows Falls Area Senior Center is located at 18 Tuttle St. We are wheelchair and walker accessible with plenty of parking. TFN

EVENTS

THURSDAY, JAN. 18 **BELLOWS FALLS, Vt.** - Birds of Chicago with special guest Hayley Reardon will perform at the The Bellows Falls Opera House on Thursday Jan. 18, from 7 - 10 p.m. Tickets are available online at www.bocbfoperahouse.com or for cash only at the door. Birds of Chicago are a mix of blues, folk, and rock. Singer/songwriter Hayley Reardon will open. Proceeds from this concert will be donated to Music & Memory, a non-profit that donates iPods, individually programmed with music loved by each patient, to folks suffering from Alzheimers and other forms of dementia.

SATURDAY, JAN. 20 **CHESTER, Vt.** - On Saturday, Jan. 20, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., third generation psychic, Dan Churchill, will be at Dream Barn Hollow to share insight and information about life after death. He will share stories from his life and family, answer questions and then give individual past life readings. Space is limited. To register call 802-875-1717 or email dreambarnhollow@gmail.com. Includes a light vegetarian lunch.

TOWNSHEND, Vt. - Get your Karaoke on! This month, on Saturday Jan. 20 from 5 - 8 p.m., Community Hope & Action of Townshend will host a free supper and night of Karaoke at the Townshend Town Hall! The Bookies, a book club in the West River, will cook dinner and serve from 5 - 6 p.m. Karaoke will happen from 6 - 8 p.m. upstairs. Please contact Community Hope & Action at communityhopeandaction@gmail.com or 802-365-4700 with any questions you may have. If possible, please bring a side dish or dessert to share. This event is substance-free and is open to people of all ages, from all towns. The group thanks The Bookies for sponsoring this month's event.

SUNDAY, JAN 21 **SAXTONS RIVER, Vt.** - Main

Street Arts and the Saxtons River Historical Society concludes the Fireside Chats series Sunday, Jan. 21 at 5:30 p.m. in the dining room of the Saxtons River Inn with a topic, "the building of the Long Trail." Mike DeBonis, executive director of the Green Mountain Club, talks about James Taylor's dream of founding a trail through Vermont for his Vermont Academy students. The result was the 272-mile Long Trail built by the Green

Mountain Club between 1910 and 1930. The event is no charge, with donations accepted. Those attending are invited to bring their own memories and memorabilia to share in this informal setting. The Inn's dining room will be open for dinner after the presentation for further socializing. Reservations are appreciated by calling the Inn at 802-869-2110. In case of inclement weather, cancellation information will be available

by contacting Main Street Arts at 802-869-2960.

SATURDAY, FEB. 3 - **CHESTER, Vt.** - Gassetts Grange is holding a Square Dance and Round on Saturday, Feb. 3 at 7 p.m. at the Gassetts Grange Hall. We have refreshments on sale in our kitchen and we have 50/50 tickets on sale. Please come and join us for good music and loads of fun, for a small donation. For more information

call 802-875-2637, 802-591-4290, or 802-875-1051.

WEDNESDAYS - **CHARLESTOWN, N.H.** - Weekly bingo at the Charlestown Memorial VFW Post 8497, 365 Lovers Lane Rd. Early Birds at 5 p.m., Regular Games at 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAYS - **LUDLOW, Vt.** - Gypsy Reel plays regularly at The Killarney, in Ludlow. Music always begins at 6:30 p.m. and

continues until 8:30 p.m. or later (depending upon football schedule). Fine ale, good pub food, and great music in the traditional Irish style. TFN

GASSETTS, Vt. - Bingo will be held every Thursday night at the Gassetts Grange. Starts at 6:30 p.m., doors open at 5 p.m. Supper, raffle and 50/50 tickets are on sale. Come and join in. Call Donna at 802-591-4290 or you can call the hall at 802-875-1051. TFN

View our Complete Inventory of New & Used Cars & Trucks at www.BensonsChevy.com

<p>2018 CHEVY COLORADO CREW CAB, 4X4, Z-71 OFF ROAD PACKAGE</p> <p>MSRP \$37,135 \$1,419 DUE AT DELIVERY LEASE FOR 39 MONTHS</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$329/MONTH*</p> 	<p>2018 CHEVY CRUZE LT PACKAGE</p> <p>MSRP \$22,325 \$2,239 DUE AT DELIVERY LEASE FOR 39 MONTHS</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$189/MONTH*</p> 	<p>2018 CHEVY SILVERADO DOUBLE CAB, 4X4</p> <p>MSRP \$43,480 \$4,399 DUE AT DELIVERY LEASE FOR 39 MONTHS</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$229/MONTH*</p> 
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<p>2017 CHEVY CRUZE LT Package, Dark Grey, Only 9,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$14,995</p>	<p>2016 CHEVY TRAX AWD, LS Package, Only 4,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$17,995</p>	<p>2015 FORD F-150 SUPER CREW CAB 4x4, Fully Loaded, One Owner</p> <p>WAS \$29,995 NOW \$28,995</p>	<p>2015 GMC ACADIA DENALI Fully Loaded, One Owner, Only 39,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$30,995</p>
<p>2017 NISSAN ROGUE AWD Auto, PW, PDL, Tilt Wheel, Only 5,000 Miles</p> <p>WAS \$20,995 NOW \$19,995</p>	<p>2016 SUBARU IMPREZA SPORT LIMITED AWD, Fully Loaded, One Owner, Leather</p> <p>WAS \$20,995 NOW \$19,995</p>	<p>2015 CHEVY 2500 HD EXTENDED CAB 4x4, Duramax Diesel, LT Package, One Owner, Only 44,000 Miles</p> <p>DURAMAX DIESEL</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY SUBURBAN LT Package, 4x4, Leather, Sun Roof, Fully Loaded</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$32,995</p>
<p>2017 NISSAN FRONTIER 4 DOOR CREW CAB 4x4, Fully Loaded, Only 7,000 Miles</p> <p>WAS \$26,995 NOW \$24,995</p>	<p>2016 CHEVY EQUINOX LTZ Package, AWD, 6 Cyl, Sun Roof, Navigation, Leather, One Owner</p> <p>WAS \$25,995 NOW \$24,995</p>	<p>2015 CHEVY EQUINOX LT Package, AWD, Sun Roof, One Owner</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$16,995</p>	<p>2014 GMC TERRAIN SLE 2, Navigation, Only 44,000 Miles</p> <p>WAS \$17,995 NOW \$16,995</p>
<p>2017 NISSAN MURANO S AWD, Only 3,000 Miles, Brand New</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$25,995</p>	<p>2015 CHEVY 2500 EXPRESS 12 PASSENGER VAN V8, Fully Loaded</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$16,995</p>	<p>2015 CHEVY G-30 HIGH CUBE 12 ft Box, Extra Clean, One Owner</p> <p>WAS \$26,995 NOW \$25,995</p>	<p>2014 FORD F-450 4X4 RACK DUMP BODY with Plow, V10 Gas Engine, One Owner</p> <p>ONLY 48,000 MILES</p>
<p>2016 NISSAN ROGUE AWD, Auto, PW, PDL, Tilt Wheel, Only 7,000 Miles</p> <p>WAS \$19,995 NOW \$18,995</p>	<p>2015 CHEVY EQUINOX AWD, LS Package, One Owner, Only 26,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$16,995</p>	<p>2015 KIA SORENTO LX Package, AWD, Fully Loaded</p> <p>WAS \$15,995 NOW \$13,995</p>	<p>2014 BUICK REGAL GS AWD, 2.0 Liter Turbo, Sun Roof, Fully Loaded</p> <p>WAS \$18,995 NOW \$17,995</p>

<p>2016 DODGE RAM 1500 EXTENDED CAB, 4X4, A/C, TILT WHEEL, PL, PW, ONLY 19,000 MILES</p> <p>STOCK #1646</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$26,995</p> 	<p>2018 CHEVY SILVERADO CREW CAB, 4X4</p> <p>MSRP \$46,070 \$3,459 DUE AT DELIVERY LEASE FOR 39 MONTHS</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$339/MONTH*</p> 	<p>2005 GMC 2500 REG CAB 4X4, WITH FISHER PLOW</p> <p>STOCK #05143</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$6,995</p> 
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<p>2014 CHEVY VOLT Auto, Fully Loaded, Only 33,000 Miles, One Owner</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$14,995</p>	<p>2012 TOYOTA SIENNA LE VAN AWD, V6, Auto, Only 55,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$13,995</p>	<p>2010 CHEVY EQUINOX LT Package, AWD, Fully Loaded, Only 93,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$9,995</p>	<p>2007 CHEVY IMPALA LS Sedan, V6, Auto, Fully Loaded</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$4,295</p>
<p>2014 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA SE Package, Fully Loaded, Only 23,000 Miles</p> <p>WAS \$11,995 NOW \$10,995</p>	<p>2011 HONDA PILOT EXL Package, AWD, Leather, Sun Roof, One Owner</p> <p>WAS \$16,995 NOW \$15,995</p>	<p>2009 TOYOTA TACOMA CREW CAB 4x4, SR5, Auto, Fully Loaded</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$17,995</p>	<p>2005 DODGE RAM 1500 REGULAR CAB 4x4, Short Box</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$6,995</p>
<p>2014 CHEVY CRUZE LT Package, Auto, One Owner, Only 15,000 Miles</p> <p>WAS \$12,995 NOW \$11,995</p>	<p>2011 NISSAN ROGUE S Model, AWD</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$8,995</p>	<p>2009 HONDA ACCORD LXP Fully Loaded, Only 84,000 Miles</p> <p>WAS \$8,995 NOW \$7,495</p>	<p>2005 GMC 2500 REG CAB 4x4, w/ Fisher Plow</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$6,995</p>
<p>2013 CHEVY TAHOE LTZ Package, Fully Loaded</p> <p>WAS \$29,995 NOW \$28,995</p>	<p>2011 NISSAN FRONTIER 4 DOOR CREW CAB 4x4, SL Package, Sun Roof, Leather Interior, Extra Clean</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$11,995</p>	<p>2008 CHEVY EQUINOX AWD, Sport Package, V6, Fully Loaded</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$8,995</p>	<p>1999 GMC 2500 4x4, w/ Fisher Plow</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$3,495</p>

<p>2015 JEEP RENEGADE 4X4, SUN ROOF, ONLY 30,000 MILES</p> <p>STOCK #1583</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$16,995</p> 	<p>1999 GMC 2500 4X4, WITH FISHER PLOW</p> <p>STOCK #7178A</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$3,495</p> 	<p>2015 TOYOTA RAV4 AWD, LE PACKAGE, ONLY 18,000 MILES</p> <p>STOCK #1586</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$18,995</p> 
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PET OF THE WEEK/AUTOMOTIVE

EVENTS CONT.

SATURDAYS-
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Internet and jazz jam Saturday at the Flat Iron Exchange, located in the square. No cover charge, just a tip jar to listen to some great jazz music. Enjoy a coffee and relax. 5-7 p.m. TFN

SUNDAYS-
PUTNEY, Vt. – Dinner and a movie every fourth Sunday, 5:30 p.m. At each event, the chefs at the Gleanery will serve a special menu in time for diners to make it to the hosted 7 p.m. film screening around the corner at the newly renovated Next Stage. For pricing or reservations call 802-387-3052. Limited seating available. 15 Kimball Hill Rd. TFN



FARMERS' MARKETS

FRIDAYS-
WESTON, Vt. – Weston Winter Farmer's Market at the Walker Farm Playhouse. Friday hours are from 3 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Your favorite dairy, eggs, cheese, meat and bread vendors will be on hand as well as prepared foods, artisans and crafts people. Come and support by purchasing local and fresh! Lots of fun and real close to home. Shop and enjoy local!

LIBRARIES

THURSDAY, JAN. 18 –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Crazy 8's is a recreational after-school math club offered at the Springfield Town Library

that helps kids enjoy the math behind their favorite activities. With Crazy 8's kids will build glow-in-the-dark structures, crack secret spy codes and play games like Toilet Paper Olympics. This program starts on Thursday, Jan. 18 at 4 p.m. and will continue every other Thursday through April 26. Geared for children in grades K-5. Free and open to the public. For more information and to sign up, please call Michelle at Springfield Town Library, 802-885-3108 or email stfys@vermontel.net.

FRIDAY, JAN. 19 –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Town Library will host "Music with Martha" on Friday, Jan. 19 at 1 p.m. This will be a great time for children under 6 to experience the joy of music with old favorites and even some new ones. Martha

Mitchell has been sharing her love of music with children at early education programs in the Springfield area and we are excited to bring her to the library. This program is free and open to the public. For more information, please call Michelle at Springfield Town Library, 802-885-3108.

SATURDAY, JAN. 20 –
LONDONDERRY, Vt. – The South Londonderry Free Library is celebrating the Year of The Dog with a special Chinese New Year Program for kids on Saturday, Jan. 20 at 10:30 a.m. Artist Casey Junker Bailey will explain the customs of the season and help children make colorful decorations to welcome in the New Year. The workshop is free of charge and appropriate for all ages. All materials will be provided. For more information, contact the Library at 802-824-3371.

MONDAY, JAN. 22 –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Join the book discussion of "The Handmaid's Tale" by Margaret Atwood at the Rockingham Library on Monday, Jan. 22 at 4 p.m. Copies of this title are now available to borrow at the Library's front desk. Carly Fox, a teacher from Vermont Academy who has a background in Women's History, will facilitate this discussion. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, go to rockinghamlibrary.org, call 802 463-4270, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org or stop by the Rockingham Library at 65 Westminster St., Bellows Falls, VT. Library hours are

10 a.m. 7 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, 10 a.m. 5:30 p.m. on Thursday & Friday and 10 a.m. 2 p.m. on Saturday.

SUNDAY, JAN. 28 –
CAVENDISH, Vt. – Cavendish Fletcher Community Library will host "Dinner and a Movie" on Sunday, Jan. 28 at 1 p.m. featuring "Dunkirk". The movie depicts how, in May 1940, Germany advanced into France, trapping Allied troops on the beaches of Dunkirk and captures the drama and horrors of their evacuation. Dinner will consist of Cassoulet, Toad in the Hole, and other themed dishes that connect to the time and place of the movie. Open and free to the public although donations are accepted and encouraged. Located at 573 Main St., Cavendish. Call 802-226-7503 for more details.

MONDAYS –
CHESTER, Vt. – Children of all ages are invited to join the LEGO Club at the Whiting Library in Chester. We will provide the LEGOs and DUPLOs and you supply the imagination. The program is on Mondays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Thanks to the Rotary Club of Chester for helping us with a generous donation for this program. For further information contact 802-875-2277, www.whitinglibrary.org, or on Facebook. TFN

MEETINGS

FRIDAY, JAN. 26 –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Greater Falls Connections will be co-hosting their January Coalition Meeting on Friday, Jan. 26, from noon - 1 p.m. with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Vermont! Come hear about what they are doing in the Bellows Falls area, and what's needed to help get the word out about their program. Parks Place Community Resource Center, 44 School St., Bellows Falls. Lunch and good company provided.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 31
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Meeting of Union/Park Neighborhood Association on Wednesday Jan. 31 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Union Street School in Springfield

TUESDAYS-
WESTMINSTER, Vt. –

Westminster Fire & Rescue Department monthly meeting on the first Tuesday at 7 p.m. Rescue training is on the second Tuesday and combined drill on the third Tuesday. More information can be found at www.westminsterfireandrescue.org. TFN

WEDNESDAYS-
LUDLOW, Vt. – Black River Area Community Coalition meets third Wednesdays in the Community room of the Fletcher Memorial Library, Main St. in Ludlow, starting at 5:30 p.m. More information, visit www.braccvt.org. TFN

SUPPORT GROUPS

MONDAYS-
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – NAMI Vermont Connection Recovery Support Group is a mental illness support group. It provides a forum to share experiences and learn about opportunities and challenges regardless of diagnostics. HCRC, CRT Room, 390 River St. Meets every Monday from 1-2 p.m. Info: call 800-639-6480 or visit www.namivt.org. TFN

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Overeaters Anonymous Meeting from 7-8 p.m., 44 School St., Bellows Falls. Please call 802-376-3507. TFN

TUESDAYS-
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Breast Feeding Support Group second and fourth Tuesdays at the Springfield Hospital Library Level D. Noon-2 p.m. It is free and no registration is required. For more information call Erin at 802-885-7511. TFN

LUDLOW, Vt. – Co-Dependents Anonymous meets on Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the basement of the Fletcher Memorial Library, 88 Main St. in Ludlow. Find out more about CoDA at coda.org. For more information regarding this meeting, contact Sarah E. at sarahcoda2016@gmail.com. TFN

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – TOPS Chapter Vermont #12 meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Sacred Heart Social Center, 39 Green Street in Bellows Falls. Come to TOPS (take off pounds sensibly) a non-profit, non-commercial, weight loss support group that really works. Every week there are interesting programs that touch on topics that help us in our quest for weight loss. We share healthy recipes for main meals and snacks. Your first meeting is free. Bring a friend; you won't be disappointed. Visit

our website www.tops.org for more information. TFN

WEDNESDAYS –
LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Weekly clean and sober 12-Step Meeting. Support Group meets at Neighborhood Connections next to the Londonderry Post Office at 5:30 p.m. every Wednesday. TFN

LUDLOW, Vt. – Eating behavior support group meets Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at the Women's Center for Binge and Emotional Eating on 70 Main St. This free group is intended to help you understand your eating and/or weight-related struggles. The group is led by trained therapists who specialize in eating behavior. To join call 802-975-0435 or email shiri@fitwoman.com. TFN

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Twin State Depression Support Group meets on the fourth Wednesday at Turning Point Recovery Center (Handicapped-accessible), 7 Morgan Street, Springfield at 6:30 p.m. Do you know or think you may be depressed? Have a friend or family member who has depression? Then this group is for you! Support, empathy, sharing, education, confidentiality, peer-led. Contact TwinStateDSC@gmail.com or 641-715-3900 (ext. 650055#). TFN

THURSDAYS –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Mental health peer support group, 2-3:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 77 Main St. The group's goal will be to provide a safe and healthy environment for people to give and receive support around mental health issues. The group is free and open to the public. Call Diana Slade at 802-289-1982. TFN

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) at Huber Building, 80 Main St. Weigh-in starts at 8 a.m. and the meeting begins at 9 a.m. TFN

PERKINSVILLE, Vt. – Twin State Depression Support Group Board of Directors will now meet every other month in 2018 on the third Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at 2520 Route 106 in Perkinsville. Please come join us. New local phone number is 802-795-0098. This is a voice mail line. Updates regarding meetings will be posted during bad weather. Messages will be checked daily. The 2018 schedule is: Jan. 18, March 22, May 17, July 19, Sept. 20 - the one exception will be in November - that date to be announced.

pet of the week



Hi! My name is Amelia, and I am ready to take off to my final destination, your home! I am a playful sweet, but sassy 1 year old. I have lived with dogs before and do fine with other cats. Stop by Wednesday thru Saturday from noon to 4:30 p.m. to meet me. On Feb. 13, we are having our next cat and rabbit spay and neuter clinic. Call 802-885-3997 for more information. Stop by Wednesday thru Saturday from noon to 4:30.

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 2012 Nissan Rogue SPECIAL EDITION AWD 4 Cylinder Auto Fully Loaded	 2014 Nissan Versa FWD 4 Cylinder 4 Door Sedan

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